

COMMERCIAL. No. 29 (1883).

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DESPATCH

FROM

SIR EDWARD MALET

INCLOSING A

R E P O R T

BY

SURGEON-GENERAL HUNTER

ON THE

CHOLERA EPIDEMIC IN EGYPT.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
1883.

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[C.—3732.] Price 1d.

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Despatch from Sir Edward Malet, inclosing a Report by Surgeon-General Hunter on the Cholera Epidemic in Egypt.

No. 1.

Sir E. Malet to Earl Granville.—(Received August 14.)

My Lord,

Cairo, August 6, 1883.

I HAVE the honour to inclose copy of a Report which Surgeon-General Hunter has addressed to me, giving an account of his proceedings and observations since his arrival in Cairo.

I have, &c.
(Signed) EDWARD B. MALET.

Inclosure in No. 1.

Surgeon-General Hunter to Sir E. Malet.

Sir,

Cairo, August 6, 1883.

IT would seem desirable that I should now make, for the information of Her Majesty's Government, a short statement of my proceedings since my arrival in this capital on the afternoon of the 26th ultimo. I therefore beg to submit the following précis.

I have daily, or almost daily, visited different parts of the city and its suburbs, and there is hardly a district with the condition of which I am not more or less familiar. It is simply an abuse of words to talk of sanitation in connection with Cairo, every sanitary law being grossly set at defiance.

The canals are, in many instances, little better than sewers, and no precautions, at least none deserving the name, are taken to keep the source of the water supply from contamination by excreta and filth.

Conditions for the development and spread of disease in almost every form, epidemic or otherwise, abound. They are here, there, and everywhere present to the sight, smell, and taste. Much had been done previous to my arrival as regards surface cleansing of the streets and gutters; much has been done since, and at present the city may be said to be fairly clean. This, in itself, must have been a Herculean task, and reflects great credit on those concerned. This is a decided gain, but the evil has deeper roots, which will require vigorous and carefully-directed measures for its repression.

I have visited several of the hospitals, and among others, Kasr-el-Ain and the Ibrahim Pasha Hospital, the latter, a building extemporized for cholera cases, and the expense of which is borne by his Highness Prince Ibrahim Pasha.

I have consequently had opportunities of witnessing numerous examples of the disease now epidemic in this country, and I am of opinion that in all essential features its type does not differ from the cholera which I have so frequently had under observation in India. It is gratifying to be able to state that the epidemic is on the wane, although still widespread over the country, and the type, as usual in declining epidemics, is much less severe. The number of deaths from this disease reported up to the 31st July is said to be 12,600. Registration is, however, so defective that this statement must be taken with much reservation. I am inclined to think that it is nearly double this total.

The organisation of the Medical Department is in a most primitive condition, and many of its officers are quite incompetent. The latter are broadly accused of being ignorant, and of neglecting their duty through personal fear. That there are many honourable exceptions to this rule I believe; nevertheless, I regret to state that instances of the allegations preferred have come to my personal knowledge.

In pleasant contrast to this I would observe that the Egyptian soldiery are loud in their gratitude for the devotion displayed by their English officers to their necessities during the present crisis.

The Medical Department stands in great need of thorough reorganization, and as to a Sanitary Department, I am not aware that such a thing exists—at least, no practical evidence is forthcoming of its existence previous to the organizations which have been brought into force by the current epidemic, and which, so far as I am aware, did not originate with the Medical Department.

On the night of my arrival I attended a meeting of the “Conseil Supérieur,” of which important body I was at once elected a member. — There can be little doubt that my work has been materially facilitated by associating me with this, the highest executive body in the country. Meetings of this Council are held almost every night, and numerous subjects of the greatest importance, affecting the health and welfare of the people of Egypt, have been brought before it for discussion and disposal. Among the most important I would refer to—

1. The mode of dealing with outbreaks of cholera in towns and villages. On this point the means adopted in India was brought to notice, and approved of.

2. The value of quarantines and cordons as a means of preventing the spread of the disease. I pointed out their inutility, gave reasons for my opinion, and mentioned that they had been abolished in India. Of the inefficacy of cordons the Council itself has had proofs in this country during the current outbreak. (I may add that General Baker Pasha is at this moment engaged in withdrawing the cordon on this side of Alexandria, consequent on the disease having spread far in its rear, and diffused itself all over that part of the country which it was designed to protect.)

3. The mode of disposal of the dead and the condition of the cemeteries, questions of great difficulty in this country, were more than once freely discussed. On the evening of the 4th instant it was resolved that a Committee should be appointed to make inquiries, and report to the Council.

4. On the 29th July I drew the attention of the Council to the necessity which existed for the formation of a Sanitary Department, on the system established in India; and, after consultation with the President, his Excellency Dr Salim Pasha, and the members of the “Conseil de Santé” (Board of Health), it was decided, at the meeting of the Council on the night of the 30th, that forty Mussulman hospital assistants, trained in sanitation, accompanied by eight medical officers, one of whom should have served in the Sanitary Department for not less than eight or ten years, should be brought from India without delay. Immediate steps were taken to communicate with the Viceroy of India, and it is expected that this corps of health officers will leave Bombay on the 7th instant. This measure has been a source of intense satisfaction to me, and its importance cannot be overestimated.

The twelve medical gentlemen dispatched from England to serve in this country arrived here in due course, and have been distributed as follows :—

1. Dr. Acland, to the charge of the Egyptian Army Hospital, Abbasieh.
2. Dr. Gulliver, temporarily attached to the Ibrahim Pasha Hospital, Bulak.
3. Dr. Thrupp, to Damankur and district.
4. Dr. Porter, to Rosetta and district.
5. Dr. Honman, to Mahallet and district.
6. Surgeon McNally, M.D., Madras Medical Department, and } To Zagazig and
7. Dr. Taylor. } district.
8. Dr. Cantlie, to Kafr Zayyat.
9. Dr. Crookshank, attached to General Baker Pasha, to superintend the police and gendarmerie, and to form a cholera camp in the neighbourhood of El Terain.
10. Dr. Leslie, attached to the “Conseil de Santé” (Board of Health) Cairo.

The other two remaining medical officers, Drs. Wyborn and Wilkins, have been detained for service in Alexandria.

I availed myself of the alternative given me in a despatch from Lord Granville of the 26th ultimo, and thought it would be more convenient to place them under the Egyptian Government than to keep them under my own orders.

Each officer has been furnished with a letter from the Minister of the Interior to the Governor of the town to which he has been appointed. On arrival they will at once assume charge of their districts, and will have associated with them one or more Egyptian medical officers to assist them in their duties.

An adequate quantity of medicines has been supplied to them, and they are accompanied by interpreters.

By this time all have proceeded to take up their appointments.

It is a source of satisfaction to me to feel that the mission, with which Her Majesty's Government have been pleased to entrust me, has been rendered comparatively easy by the readiness with which my suggestions have been received by the Ministers, especially by his Excellency Khairi Pasha, Minister of the Interior, and by his Excellency, Dr. Salim Pasha, head of the Egyptian Medical Service.

In conclusion, permit me to thank you for the readiness of access which you have at all times accorded me, and for the cordial manner in which you have supported me on all occasions.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. G. HUNTER.

P.S.—It is my intention this week to proceed on a tour of inspection of the towns and villages situated on the Damietta branch of the Nile.

W. G. H.

No. 2.

Earl Granville to Sir E. Malet.

Sir,

Foreign Office, August 16, 1883.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch of the 6th instant, forwarding a Report by Dr. Hunter on his proceedings in connection with the cholera epidemic in Egypt.

I have read this statement with interest, and have given directions that it shall be laid forthwith before Parliament.

I have learnt with satisfaction the sanitary improvements already effected.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

COMMERCIAL. No. 29 (1883).

Despatch from Sir Edward Malet, inclosing a
Report by Surgeon-General Hunter on the
Cholera Epidemic in Egypt.

*Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Com-
mand of Her Majesty. 1883.*

CORRESPONDENCE

RESPECTING THE

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1883.

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Correspondence respecting the Cholera Epidemic in Egypt :
1883.

No. 1.

Consul Cookson to Earl Granville.—(Received July 9.)

My Lord,

Alexandria, June 27, 1883.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith to your Lordship a despatch addressed to me by Mr. Miéville relative to the recent outbreak of cholera at Damietta.

I have, &c.
(Signed) CHAS. A. COOKSON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 1.

Consul Miéville to Consul Cookson.

(Extract.)

Alexandria, June 27, 1883.

I HAVE the honour to report that an extraordinary meeting of the Quarantine Board was held on the 25th instant, to consider the news that had been received from Damietta of the existence of cholera.

It was resolved to place arrivals from Damietta in quarantine for seventeen days, ten of which to be performed at Ezbeh, the Damietta mouth of the Nile, about 9 miles from the town, and seven days at Mex, near Alexandria.

A further Resolution was passed giving expression to the hope that the Board of Health had, under the circumstances, taken special measures for the preservation of the rest of Egypt.

I have the honour to transmit to you a copy of the preliminary Minute drawn up at Damietta by the Joint Medical Commission which was sent to examine on the spot into the origin and the exact nature of the epidemic.

Inclosure 2 in No. 1.

Procès-Verbal of the Medical Commissions.

NOUS, Soussignés, membres de la Commission Mixte chargée de se rendre à Damiette pour y étudier la maladie qui s'y est manifestée ces jours derniers, après nous être réunis dans la dite localité, et avoir examiné un assez grand nombre de malades et de décédés, et avoir pratiqué une autopsie, sommes unanimement d'opinion que les symptômes présentés par les malades que nous avons observés sont ceux du choléra. Vu la marche rapide de la maladie, la forme presque foudroyante de quelques cas, le grand nombre des attaques, la proportion relativement élevée des décès, l'extension que prend la maladie dans la ville en dehors du foyer primitif, nous sommes d'avis que cette affection présente les caractères d'un choléra épidémique.

Tout en reconnaissant à la maladie la forme épidémique, nous devons dire qu'il ne nous a pas été possible, malgré nos recherches à cet égard, d'en déterminer l'origine et de spécifier si elle a pris naissance sur place ou si elle a été importée.

Le présent procès-verbal sommaire est dressé par la Commission en attendant la remise d'un Rapport détaillé qu'il a été jugé nécessaire de rédiger collectivement au Caire.

(Signé)

DR. FERRARI.
DR. ANNINOS.
DR. GRANT.
DR. ZAMBAKOS.
DR. ARDOUIN BEY.
DR. WINKLER.
DR. HAMAI.
DR. CHAFFEY BEY.
DR. DACOROGNA BEY.
DR. HERRAOUI.

Damiette, le 25 Juin, 1883.

(Translation.)

WE, the Undersigned, members of the Mixed Commission appointed to proceed to Damietta to inquire into the disease which has recently broken out there, after having met, and having examined a sufficient number of sick persons and dead bodies, and having made a *post-mortem* examination, are unanimously of opinion that the symptoms shown by the sick we examined are those of cholera. Considering the rapid spread of the illness, the nearly sudden deaths which it sometimes occasions, the great number of persons attacked, the large proportion of fatal cases, the area over which the disease has spread in the town beyond the original focus, are of opinion that the malady has the characteristics of epidemic cholera.

While acknowledging that the disease is epidemic, we must confess to having been unable, notwithstanding our inquiries, to determine its origin or to specify whether it arose locally or was imported.

This short *procès-verbal* is drawn up by the Committee pending the detailed Report which will be prepared at a meeting at Cairo.

(Signed)

DR. FERRARI.
DR. ANNINOS.
DR. GRANT.
DR. ZAMBAKOS.
DR. ARDOUIN BEY.
DR. WINKLER.
DR. HAMAI.
DR. CHAFFEY BEY.
DR. DACOROGNA BEY.
DR. HERRAOUI.

Damietta, June 25, 1883.

No. 2.

Consul Cookson to Earl Granville.—(Received July 9.)

My Lord,

Alexandria, June 29, 1883.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith to your Lordship a despatch addressed to me by Mr. Miéville, reporting the measures taken by the Sanitary Board for the regulation of the transit of vessels through the Suez Canal during such time as Egypt might be considered by Europe as infected.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

CHAS. A. COOKSON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 2.

Consul Miéville to Consul Cookson.

Sir,

Alexandria, June 29, 1883.

IN continuation of my despatch of the 27th instant, I have the honour to forward herewith printed copies of the Report of the Joint Medical Commissions

referred to as forthcoming in the preliminary Minute which formed the inclosure in my above-mentioned despatch.

The Council held further extraordinary sittings on the 27th and 28th instant to consider the intricate question relative to the transit of vessels through the Suez Canal during such time as Egypt may be considered by Europe as infected.

As a preliminary measure, I proposed the immediate isolation of all pilots not hitherto compromised, so that vessels desirous of passing the Canal without communicating with Egypt might still take a "clean" pilot on board either at Suez or Port Saïd, and not be obliged to incur the great expense of employing a special pilot-launch.

It was further agreed that pilots already compromised should be specially affected to the service of vessels communicating with Port Saïd and vessels otherwise compromised.

These resolutions are, however, subject to modification, as such arrangements are necessarily dependent on the Canal authorities.

A quarantine of seventeen days has been imposed here and in other Egyptian ports on arrivals from Port Saïd since cholera cases have been reported in that town.

The inclosed letter addressed to me by the President of the Council treats of this quarantine in detail.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. F. MIÉVILLE, *British Delegate.*

Inclosure 2 in No. 2.

Rapport des Commissions Médicales chargées de déterminer la Nature et les Caractères de la Maladie qui a éclaté à Damiette le 22 Juin, 1883.

NOUS, Soussignés :

Membres de la Commission déléguée par le Conseil de Santé et d'Hygiène Publique :—

Dr. Dacorogna Bey, Vice-Président du Conseil de Santé ;
Dr. Ahmet Bey Hamdi, Inspecteur Sanitaire du Caire ;
Dr. Abdel Rahman Bey Herraoui, Professeur à l'École de Médecine ;
Dr. Grant Bey, Médecin-en-chef des Chemins de Fer.

Membres de la Commission déléguée par le Conseil Sanitaire Maritime et Quarantenaire :—

Dr. Ardouin Bey, Inspecteur-Général du Service Sanitaire Maritime et Quarantenaire ;

Dr. Anninos, Délégué de Grèce au Conseil Sanitaire Maritime et Quarantenaire ;
Dr. Ahmet Bey Chaffey, Délégué Égyptien à Djeddah ;
Dr. Ferrari, Directeur de l'Office Quarantenaire à Damiette.

Nous sommes rendus à Damiette le 24 Juin, 1883, afin d'étudier la maladie qui venait d'apparaître dans cette ville et de déterminer sa nature.

Arrivés sur les lieux nous avons tout d'abord recherché le chiffre de la population de Damiette. Nous avons également établi pour les comparer les chiffres de la mortalité en temps normal et depuis l'apparition de la maladie en question.

Nous donnons dans le Tableau suivant le résultat de nos recherches :—

Population de Damiette, environ 35,000.

TABLEAU Comparatif de la Mortalité générale pendant la Semaine du 19 au 26 Juin, en 1882 et en 1883.

				1882.	1883.
Juin 19	..	..	..	3	6
" 20	..	..	..	2	4
" 21	..	..	..	1	1
" 22	..	..	..	3	14
" 23	..	..	..	2	23
" 24	..	..	..	7	25
" 25	..	..	..	3	24

77 Nous avons voulu ensuite nous renseigner sur les conditions atmosphériques de la localité pendant les journées qui ont précédé l'explosion de la maladie et avons appris que pendant trois jours, du 19 au 21 Juin, il y a eu une élévation notable de la température avec absence de vent.

A la même époque la fête annuelle du Mouled de Cheik el Chateb, réunissait à Damiette environ 15,000 personnes venues de différents points de l'Égypte.

Il résulte également des informations qui nous ont été fournies, notamment par le Gouverneur et le médecin de la localité, que c'est le 22 Juin que l'on a constaté une augmentation dans le nombre des malades et dans celui des décès, qui n'ont fait qu'augmenter à partir de cette date. Les recherches auxquelles nous nous sommes livrés ont confirmé ces informations.

Pendant les deux ou trois premiers jours la maladie s'est manifestée dans le quartier situé près du fleuve et le long du Kalig; elle est ensuite sortie de ses limites et s'est étendue sur plusieurs points de la ville.

Indépendamment de sa situation particulière entre le Nil d'une part, les Lacs Menzaleh de l'autre, sur un terrain bas et humide à proximité de rivières, Damiette se trouve dans de mauvaises conditions hygiéniques. La ville est traversée par un halig dans lequel se déversent les égouts des Mosquées et des maisons riveraines et dont l'eau, malgré cela, sert à la consommation d'une partie de la population. Plusieurs latrines à fosses découvertes, notamment près des Mosquées, répandent des émanations malsaines. D'après les renseignements qui nous ont été donnés par des personnes dignes de foi, un grand nombre d'animaux morts, chariés par le fleuve, viennent s'arrêter aux environs de la ville. De la viande provenant d'animaux morts du typhus bovin serait journellement et clandestinement fournie à bas prix à la consommation publique. Nous ajouterons que l'alimentation des habitants de Damiette est mauvaise; ils se nourrissent principalement de poissons salés appelés "fessihs."

Examen des Malades.

1.—*Dans la Soirée du 24 Juin.*

Les membres de la Commission du Caire ont examiné :—

1 et 2. Dans une même maison deux hommes adultes, à peu près du même âge, de 30 à 35 ans. Le premier, malade depuis deux jours, présente les symptômes suivants :—

Les extrémités sont froides, le tronc est encore chaud, la peau est ridée, le faciès est cholérique, la voix est éteinte; il y a absence presque complète de pouls. Le malade a eu des vomissements, de la diarrhée, et des crampes. Ces derniers accidents ont actuellement disparu.

Le second malade examiné présente des symptômes nous paraissant se rattacher à une fièvre rhumatismale. Rien de suspect.

3. Dans le même quartier, un jeune homme de 18 ans appartenant à une famille aisée, dont le père a succombé dans la journée à des accidents suspects, arrivé le matin de Mansurah, est pris à son tour de la maladie. Les extrémités ne sont pas tout à fait froides; la langue est rouge et sèche. Il y a des vomissements, de la diarrhée blanchâtre, des gargouillements abdominaux.

4. Un homme de 50 ans malade depuis le matin, atteint de diarrhée et de fièvre, langue chargée, pouls fort, tête lourde, ne nous paraît pas présenter des symptômes suspects bien caractérisés.

5. Un jeune homme de 30 ans appartenant à la classe aisée a été pris dans la matinée de vomissements, de diarrhée, et de crampes. Au moment de notre visite, 10 heures du soir, le refroidissement est général, la peau est ridée, les extrémités un peu cyanosées, les globes oculaires sont enfoncés, les pupilles dilatées et fixes; aphonie, état de collapsus. Ce malade est mort à 3 heures et demie du matin.

2.—*Dans la Journée du 25 Juin.*

Les membres des deux Commissions Médicales réunies ont procédé à l'examen des malades suivants :—

6. Ali Youssen, âgé de 45 ans, est tombé malade la veille, au coucher du soleil. Refroidissement complet de tout le corps, de la langue, peu ridée et cyanosée, commencement de collapsus, yeux enfoncés et entourés d'un cercle bleuâtre, voix éteinte, crampes, vomissements, diarrhée abondante aqueuse, avec des muquosités blanchâtres, absence d'urine.

7. Une jeune femme de 18 ans souffre depuis un mois de fièvre intermittente, ce qui ne l'a pas empêchée de se livrer à ses occupations habituelles jusqu'au 24, époque à laquelle l'aphonie et le refroidissement général se sont déclarés tout à coup. Pas de vomissements, peu de diarrhée, l'amaigrissement n'est pas prononcé, les yeux sont enfoncés dans les orbites, la peau est ridée, cyanosée. Il y a contractions des doigts, collapsus. Nous avons appris que la malade est morte dans la nuit du 25.

8. Nous nous sommes fait conduire chez une négresse âgée de 25 ans, malade depuis le 23 et ayant eu des vomissements, de la diarrhée aqueuse, de l'anurie. Nous l'avons trouvée morte. Dans le courant de la journée nous avons procédé à l'autopsie de son cadavre.

9. Un enfant de sexe masculin, âgé de 6 ans, malade depuis hier soir, mort à 6 heures du matin, a présenté les phénomènes suivants : vomissements, diarrhée aqueuse, refroidissements de tout le corps. Nous constatons que le cadavre est cyanosé.

10. Ibrahim Mallaoui, âgé de 50 ans, appartenant à la basse classe, malade depuis hier à midi. Le corps est émacié, les extrémités sont froides, la peau est ridée, les yeux excavés entourés d'un cercle bleuâtre, voix éteinte, crampes, vomissements, diarrhée aqueuse avec muquosités, peu d'urine.

11 et 12. Deux femmes habitant la même maison. L'une âgée de 25 ans est malade depuis trois jours, son corps est froid, les extrémités sont un peu cyanosées, langue très froide, yeux excavés, voix éteinte, ventre rétracté, vomissements, diarrhée aqueuse, anurie, crampes.

La deuxième, âgée de 30 ans, est malade depuis hier : refroidissement général, yeux enfoncés dans les orbites, aphonie, vomissements, diarrhée.

13. Un homme de 20 ans, mort après trois jours de maladie, a eu des vomissements, de la diarrhée, des crampes.

14. En nous rendant à l'hôpital, nous avons rencontré sur une place publique un enfant de 12 à 14 ans, soutenu par un homme et qui venait d'être pris subitement de vomissements aqueux blanchâtres, de maux de tête, de douleurs et de défaillances dans les extrémités. Cette attaque avait un aspect caractéristique.

Plusieurs autres malades présentant des symptômes semblables à ceux que nous avons précédemment décrits, ont aussi été vus par divers membres de la Commission.

Autopsie de la Femme qui fait l'observation No. 8.

Aspect extérieur du Corps.

Peu d'émaciation, la rigidité cadavérique existe, la peau est ridée, il y a un peu de contracture des membres, les yeux sont enfoncés dans les orbites.

Ouverture du Cadavre.

Le gros intestin est dans toute son étendue vide et rétracté ; il présente l'aspect d'un cordon.

L'intestin grêle est congestionné et rempli d'un liquide blanchâtre, légèrement coloré par extravasations sanguines. Il n'y a aucune altération des glandes et follicules.

L'estomac fortement distendu est rempli d'un liquide clair comme de l'eau ; la vessie est tout à fait vide et rétractée.

La rate et le foie sont très légèrement congestionnés.

Les reins sont dans un état normal.

Les poumons un peu congestionnés.

Il existe des adhérences anciennes de la plèvre des deux côtés.

Le cœur présente une congestion veineuse, ses cavités sont remplies d'un sang liquide et noirâtre.

Les méninges présentent une vascularisation arborescente développée, la surface du cerveau et du cervelet est fortement congestionnée. Il existe dans les ventricules un épanchement séreux clair, prononcé.

En résumé, chez le plus grand nombre des malades que nous avons observés, les symptômes prédominants sont les suivants :—

Les vomissements, la diarrhée aqueuse, les crampes, le refroidissement prononcé

et rapide des extrémités, la cyanose, souvent l'anurie, l'aphonie, ou tout au moins l'altération de la voix, et un habitus, un faciès caractéristiques.

En présence de ce tableau symptomatologique si frappant, les membres des deux Commissions Médicales réunies, après mûre discussion et examen des symptômes qui pourraient être communs au choléra, à la fièvre pernicieuse algide, à la méningite épidémique, au typhus, et au catarrhe gastro-intestinal saisonnier, sont unanimes à reconnaître que la maladie sévissant à Damiette est bien le choléra. En outre, la soudaineté de l'invasion en général, la marche rapide de la maladie, la forme presque foudroyante dans plusieurs cas, le grand nombre des attaques, la proportion relativement élevée des décès, l'extension que prend la maladie en dehors du foyer primitif, et le fait qu'elle atteint indistinctement des individus d'âge, de sexe, et de conditions sociales différents, les amène à conclure qu'il s'agit d'un choléra épidémique.

L'épidémie cholérique actuelle présente dans ses manifestations les particularités suivantes : soudaineté et violence de l'attaque, absence de diarrhée prémonitoire dans la généralité des cas, durée de la maladie ordinairement courte et terminaison fréquemment fatale.

La Commission, malgré l'existence des mauvaises conditions hygiéniques énoncées plus haut, et tout en reconnaissant qu'elles sont favorables au développement d'une épidémie, considérant que l'apparition du choléra dans une contrée où il n'existe pas endémiquement, laisse supposer qu'il y a été importé, a voulu remonter à l'origine de la maladie sévissant actuellement à Damiette. Dans ce but elle a recherché si les premiers sujets atteints appartenaient à la localité même, s'ils en étaient sortis avant d'être malades, s'ils avaient eu des rapports avec des personnes ou des choses venant du dehors. La Commission n'ayant pu recueillir aucune indication précise à ce sujet, et manquant des données suffisantes, se trouve dans l'impossibilité d'établir la genèse du choléra épidémique de Damiette.

La Commission, avant de quitter Damiette, a cru devoir rédiger, pour les médecins et les autorités de la localité, une série d'instructions relatives à la salubrité de la ville et à l'hygiène de ses habitants.

(Signé)

DR. DACOROGNA BEY.
DR. ARDOUIN BEY.
DR. CHAFFEY BEY.
DR. GRANT BEY.
DR. A. HERRAOUI BEY.
DR. L. ANNINOS.
DR. AHMET BEY HAMDI.
DR. FERRARI.

Caire, le 26 Juin, 1883.

(Translation.)

Report by the Medical Committees appointed to ascertain the Nature and Characteristics of the Disease which broke out at Damietta on June 22, 1883.

WE, the Undersigned :

Members of the Committee appointed by the Council of Public Health and Hygiene :—

Dr. Dacorogna Bey, Vice-President of the Council of Health ;
Dr. Ahmet Bey Hamdi, Sanitary Inspector of Cairo ;
Dr. Abdel Rahman Bey Herraoui, Professor at the School of Medicine ;
Dr. Grant Bey, Chief Medical Officer to the Railways.

Members of the Committee appointed by the Maritime Sanitary and Quarantine Board :—

Dr. Ardouin Bey, Inspector-General of the Maritime Sanitary and Quarantine Service ;

Dr. Anninos, Hellenic Delegate to the Maritime Sanitary and Quarantine Board ;

Dr. Ahmet Bey Chaffey, Egyptian Delegate at Djeddah ;

Dr. Ferrari, Director of the Quarantine Office at Damietta.

We proceeded to Damietta on the 20th June, 1883, to inquire into the disease which had appeared in that town, and to ascertain its nature.

On arrival we made inquiries as to the amount of population at Damietta. We also made a comparison between the normal death-rate and that since the outbreak in question.

We subjoin the result of these inquiries :—

Population of Damietta, about 35,000.

TABLE of the general Death-rate of the Week of the 19th to 26th June in 1882, compared with the same Week in 1883.

				1882.	1883.
June 19	..	..	..	3	6
„ 20	..	..	..	2	4
„ 21	..	..	..	1	1
„ 22	..	..	..	3	14
„ 23	..	..	..	2	23
„ 24	..	..	..	7	25
„ 25	..	..	..	3	24

We then sought information as to the atmospheric condition of the place during the days preceding the appearance of the disease, and found that during the three days, 19th to 21st June, there was a marked rise in the temperature and no wind.

At the same time the yearly feast of the Mouled of Sheikh el Chateb brought to Damietta, from various parts of Egypt, some 15,000 persons.

It further appears from what we learnt from the Governor and doctor of the place, that an increase in the number of sick cases and of deaths was noticed on the 22nd June; the number has since then gone on increasing. Our own investigations confirmed this information.

For the first two or three days the disease showed itself in the quarter near the river and along the Kalig; it afterwards overstepped these limits and spread to several parts of the town.

Apart from its lying between the Nile and the lakes of Menzaleh, low damp soil near rivers, Damietta is in a bad hygienic state. The town is traversed by a halig, which receives the contents of the drains of the mosques, and the houses on its banks, and the water of which is, nevertheless, used as drinking-water by a part of the population. Many latrines and open drains, especially near the mosques, give out unwholesome gases. Persons worthy of belief told us that a great many dead animals are brought down by the river and deposited near the town. The meat of animals that have died of bovine typhus appears to be clandestinely offered for sale at a very cheap rate, and this every day.

We must add that the food of the inhabitants of Damietta is bad; it consists principally of salt fish called “fessihs.”

Examination of Cases.

1.—The Evening of June 24.

The members of the Cairo Committee have examined:—

1 and 2. Two adult men of about the same age, 30 to 35, living in the same house. The first has been ill for two days, and presents the following symptoms:—

Extremities cold, trunk still warm, skin furrowed, face choleric, voice scarcely audible, pulse almost entirely absent. Has had vomitings, diarrhœa and cramps. These latter symptoms have now disappeared.

The second presents symptoms which appear to us to belong rather to rheumatic fever. Nothing suspicious.

3. In the same quarter, a young man of 18, belonging to a tolerably well-to-do family, whose father had died during the day with suspicious symptoms; he arrived in the morning from Mansurah and caught the disease. Extremities not quite cold, tongue red and dry. Vomitings, whitish diarrhœa, rumblings in his stomach.

4. A man of 50, taken ill in the morning with diarrhœa and fever. Tongue loaded, pulse strong, head heavy. Does not appear to us to present any well-defined suspicious symptoms.

5. A young man of 30, belonging to the tolerably well-to-do class, attacked in the morning with vomitings, diarrhœa and cramp. When we saw him, at 10 o'clock at night, low temperature was general, skin furrowed, extremities showed slight cyanosis, eye-balls sunk, pupils dilated and fixed, aphony, collapse. Died at 3.30 A.M.

2.—On June 25.

The members of the united Medical Committees examined the following cases together:—

6. Ali Youssen, 45, taken ill the day before at sunset. Whole of the body cold, as also the tongue; skin furrowed and attacked by cyanosis, collapse begun, eyes sunk and surrounded by a bluish circle, voice scarcely audible, cramps, vomitings, abundant watery diarrhoea, with whitish mucus; no urine.

7. A young woman of 18; has suffered for a month from intermittent fever, which did not prevent her following her usual occupation until the 24th, when she was suddenly seized with aphony and coldness of the whole body. No vomiting, but little diarrhoea, wasting not marked, eye-balls sunk in the orbits, skin furrowed, cyanosis, contraction of the fingers, collapse. We heard that she died in the night of the 25th.

8. We had ourselves taken to the house of a negress of 25, ill since the 23rd; had had vomitings, watery diarrhoea and suppression of urine. We found her dead. During the day we performed a *post-mortem* examination.

9. A male child of 6; taken ill yesterday evening, died at 6 A.M. with the following symptoms: vomitings, watery diarrhoea, whole body cold. Cyanosis visible on the body.

10. Ibrahim Mallaoui, 50 years old, belonging to the lower class; ill since noon yesterday. Body emaciated, extremities cold, skin furrowed, eyes hollow, surrounded by a bluish circle, voice scarcely audible, cramps, vomitings, watery diarrhoea with mucus, but little urine.

11 & 12. Two women living in the same house. One, aged 25, ill for three days; body cold, slight cyanosis of the extremities, tongue very cold, eyes hollow, voice scarcely audible, belly sunk, vomitings, watery diarrhoea, suppression of urine, cramps.

The other, aged 30, taken ill yesterday; whole body cold, eyes sunk in the orbits, aphony, vomitings, diarrhoea.

13. A man of 20; died after three days illness. Vomitings, diarrhoea, cramps.

14. Going to the hospital, we met on one of the public squares a child of from 12 to 14 held up by a man. It had been attacked suddenly with whitish watery vomitings, headache, pain and weakness of the extremities. This attack had a characteristic aspect.

Several other cases, with symptoms similar to the preceding, were seen by various members of the Committee.

Post-mortem examination of the Woman mentioned under No. 8.

Aspect of the outside of the Body.

But little emaciation, *rigor mortis*, furrowed skin, limbs but slightly contracted, eyes sunk in the orbits.

Examination of the inside of the Body.

The large intestine is throughout empty and contracted; it looks like a cord.

The small intestine is congested, and filled with a whitish liquid, slightly coloured by extravasated blood. The glands and follicles are normal.

The stomach is much distended, and is full of a clear liquid like water; the bladder is quite empty, and contracted.

The spleen and liver are slightly congested; the kidneys are normal.

The lungs are slightly congested.

There are old lesions of the pleura on both sides.

The heart shows venous congestion; the cavities are full of black liquid blood.

The meninges show an advanced arborescent vascularisation; the surface of the brain and of the cerebellum is much congested. In the ventricles there is a very marked clear serous effusion. |

To sum up, the following are the predominant symptoms in the greater number of sick cases we observed:—

Vomitings, watery diarrhoea, cramps, marked and rapidly developed coldness of the extremities, cyanosis, suppression of urine, aphony, or at least a change in the voice, a characteristic appearance of the body and face.

In view of these striking symptoms, the members of the two united Committees, after full discussion and examination of the symptoms which might be common to cholera, pernicious algid fever, epidemic meningitis, and to periodic gastro-intestinal catarrh, unanimously agree that the disease raging at Damietta is indeed cholera. Moreover, the general suddenness of the advent of the malady, its rapid spread, the many cases of almost sudden death it produces, the great number of attacks, the relatively high death-rate, the spread of the disease beyond its place of origin, and the fact that it attacks persons of all ages, sex, and class indifferently, leads them to conclude that it is epidemic cholera.

The present cholera epidemic shows the following particularities:—Suddenness and violence of the attack, absence of premonitory diarrhoea in most cases, generally short duration of the illness, and frequency of fatal termination.

The Committee, notwithstanding the bad sanitary state of the town mentioned above, while recognizing that it is favourable to the development of an epidemic, considering that the appearance of cholera in a country where it did not exist endemically presupposes importation, tried to ascertain the origin of the malady now raging at Damietta. They therefore inquired whether the first cases were persons belonging to the place, whether they had left it before being attacked, and whether they had been in communication with persons or things coming from outside. The Committee, having failed to elicit anything precise on this head as sufficient data are wanting, is unable to pronounce on the origin of the cholera epidemic at Damietta.

Before leaving Damietta the Commission thought it well to draw up, for the use of the doctors and authorities of that place, a series of instructions relating to the health of the town and the hygiene of its inhabitants.

(Signed)

DR. DACOROGNA BEY.
DR. ARDOUIN BEY.
DR. CHAFFEY BEY.
DR. GRANT BEY.
DR. A. HERRAOUI BEY.
DR. L. ANNINOS.
DR. AHMET BEY HAMDI.
DR. FERRARI.

Cairo, June 26, 1883.

Inclosure 3 in No. 2.

Dr. Hassan to Consul Miéville.

M. le Délégué,

Alexandrie, le 28 Juin, 1883.

J'AI l'honneur de vous informer qu'à la suite des nouvelles reçues sur l'état sanitaire de Port-Saïd, le Conseil Sanitaire Maritime et Quarantenaire dans sa séance d'hier a décidé que les navires qui auront communiqué avec Port-Saïd passeront le Canal en état de quarantaine.

Si ces navires veulent communiquer avec Suez ils subiront une quarantaine de dix-sept jours aux Sources de Moïse avec désinfection.

Les marchandises à destination d'Égypte devront être débarquées et désinfectées, celles à destination étrangère resteront à bord et les scellés seront apposés sur les cales. Une annotation sera mise sur la patente.

Les navires ayant communiqué avec Port-Saïd arrivant à Kantarah et Ismaïlieh seront repoussés à Suez.

Les navires arrivant dans les ports Égyptiens de la Mer Rouge et provenant de Port-Saïd seront repoussés à Suez.

Si un cas suspect venait à se déclarer soit dans la traversée entre Port-Saïd et Suez, soit pendant la quarantaine aux Sources de Moïse, les navires, les passagers, et les marchandises à destination de l'Égypte seront envoyés à Tor pour y subir la quarantaine de dix-sept jours, et la désinfection réglementaire. Les marchandises à destination de l'étranger resteront à bord et les scellés seront apposés sur les cales. Une annotation sera mise sur la patente.

Les navires n'ayant pas communiqué avec Port-Saïd seront admis en libre pratique à Suez.

Les pilotes se trouvant aujourd'hui en libre pratique seront complètement isolés tant à Port-Saïd qu'à Suez pour s'embarquer sur les navires en libre pratique transitant le Canal.

Les pilotes compromis pour avoir communiqué avec Port-Saïd ou pour s'être embarqués sur des navires ayant communiqué avec cette ville, seront isolés à Suez sur un navire ou dans un local spécial. Un remorqueur en état de quarantaine les ramènera à Port-Saïd pour être à même de conduire constamment les navires compromis.

Veuillez, &c.
Le Président,
(Signé) DR. HASSAN.

(Translation.)

Sir,

Alexandria, June 28, 1883.

I HAVE the honour to inform you that, owing to the news which has been received as to the sanitary condition of Port Saïd, the Maritime Sanitary and Quarantine Board decided at its sitting yesterday that ships which have touched at Port Saïd should pass through the Canal in quarantine.

If such ships wish to touch at Suez, they shall undergo seventeen days' quarantine at Moses' Wells and be disinfected.

Goods for Egypt will be unloaded and disinfected; goods for foreign ports will remain on board, and the hatches will be sealed. A note will be made on the bill of health.

Ships which reach Kantarah and Ismaïlieh after having touched at Port Saïd will be repulsed at Suez.

Ships coming from Port Saïd and reaching the Egyptian ports on the Red Sea will be repulsed at Suez.

If a suspicious case should arise either during the journey between Port Saïd and Suez, or during the quarantine at Moses' Wells, the ships, passengers, and goods intended for Egypt will be sent to Tor, to undergo quarantine for seventeen days and to be properly disinfected. Goods intended for foreign ports will remain on board, and the hatches will be sealed. A note will be made on the bill of health.

Ships which have not touched at Port Saïd will be admitted to free pratique at Suez.

The pilots who are now in free pratique will be completely isolated both at Port Saïd and at Suez, so that they may go on board the ships in free pratique passing through the Canal.

The pilots who are compromised owing to their having landed at Port Saïd, or having gone on board ships which have touched at that town, will be isolated at Suez in a ship or in some place set apart for the purpose. A tug in quarantine will bring them back to Port Saïd, so that they may be able to pilot compromised ships.

I have, &c.
(Signed) DR. HASSAN, *President.*

No. 3.

Earl Granville to Sir E. Malet.

(Telegraphic.)

Foreign Office, July 9, 1883, 5 P.M.

HER Majesty's Government desire to help the Egyptian Government in carrying out any measures rendered necessary by the outbreak of cholera. Inform Chérif Pasha of this, and ask what is required.

No. 4.

Sir E. Malet to Earl Granville.—(Received by telegraph, July 10.)

My Lord,

Cairo, July 10, 1883.

CHERIF PASHA has sent me the inclosed message in reply to your Lordship's telegram of yesterday, and I have lost no time in forwarding its substance to you by telegraph. The Egyptian Government, whilst thanking Her Majesty's Government

for their kind offer, do not feel themselves in want of assistance, as the cholera epidemic appears to be already on the decrease.

I have, &c.
(Signed) EDWARD B. MALET.

Inclosure in No. 4.

Chérif Pasha to Sir E. Malet.

(Télégraphique.)

Alexandrie, le 10 Juillet, 1883.

REMERCIER le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté pour son offre obligeant. Nous avons pris toutes les mesures nécessitées par les circonstances, et nous avons même décidé d'engager des médecins non employés du Gouvernement pour les envoyer sur les lieux. Nous n'hésiterions pas à faire appel à l'aide du Gouvernement de Sa Majesté si l'épidémie n'était pas déjà en décroissance, et si elle ne semblait pas devoir se localiser.

(Translation.)

(Telegraphic.)

Alexandria, July 10, 1883.

THANK Her Majesty's Government for their kind offer. We have taken all the measures rendered necessary by the circumstances, and have even decided to engage doctors who are not employed by the Government in order to send them to the place. We should not hesitate to appeal to Her Majesty's Government for help if the epidemic was not lessening, and if it did not seem that it was going to localize itself.

No. 5.

Earl Granville to Surgeon-General Hunter.

Sir,

Foreign Office, July 14, 1883.

I HAVE to acquaint you that, in consequence of the present prevalence of cholera in Egypt, Her Majesty's Government have decided to send to that country a British medical officer for the purpose of investigating and reporting as to the origin of that disease and the best means for its repression.

In selecting you as the officer best qualified for the purpose of carrying out the above objects, Her Majesty's Government have been guided by their knowledge of your distinguished general and medical attainments and of your special experience of Oriental maladies.

I have therefore to request that you will make arrangements for immediately proceeding to Egypt, where, on your arrival, you will at once place yourself in communication with Sir E. Malet, Her Majesty's Agent and Consul-General.

You will report to this Office, for the information of the Sanitary Department of the Local Government Board, what, in your opinion, is the origin and character of the disease now prevalent in Egypt, and the methods which, in your opinion, should be adopted to prevent the recurrence of it and its possible spread to this country. You will also give to Sir E. Malet the benefit of your experience and knowledge in advising the Egyptian Government as to the measures which should be immediately taken during the continuance of the disease; and should the Egyptian Government, which has been informed of your arrival, desire to employ your services in organizing and directing measures for coping with the present outbreak or otherwise, you will give your best assistance to them in suggesting and carrying out the necessary measures. So far as their other duties permit, Mr. Consul Miéville, temporarily acting as British Vice-Consul at Alexandria and as Delegate to the International Quarantine Board in Egypt, and Dr. Mackie (Second British Delegate at that Board), are attached to your mission; and Sir E. Malet has been requested to afford you the necessary clerical assistance. Mr. Cookson, Her Majesty's Consul at Alexandria, has also been informed of your arrival.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 6.

*Earl Granville to Sir E. Malet.**

Sir,

Foreign Office, July 14, 1883.

HER Majesty's Government have had under their consideration your telegram of the 10th instant, in which you report the result of your communication with Chérif Pasha respecting the supply of medical assistance in Egypt at the present time; and I have now to instruct you to inform his Excellency that while they are glad to learn the measures taken by the Egyptian Government with a view to the suppression of the cholera they would wish to know whether European medical men have been sent to the scene of the outbreak, as they consider that it is of vast importance that the services of persons of great skill and experience with respect to this disease should be secured.

I have to inform you that Surgeon-General Hunter, a medical officer of great Indian experience, is being sent to Egypt. He will leave on the 20th instant. The object of his mission is to report as to the character of the disease now prevalent, and to advise you whether there are any additional measures which you should urge the Egyptian Government to take.

You will inform Chérif Pasha that Dr. Hunter's services are at the disposal of the Egyptian Government, and you will recommend him to make use of them; adding that, from the character and knowledge of that gentleman, Her Majesty's Government have every confidence that those services will be of great benefit at the present juncture.

For your further information and guidance in this matter, I inclose a copy of a letter† which I have addressed to Dr. Hunter, notifying his appointment in the above-mentioned capacity, and furnishing him with the necessary instructions. I have further to request that, as far as other duties may permit, Mr. Miéville and Dr. Mackie shall be attached to Dr. Hunter, and that you will make the necessary communications to them to this effect. You will also afford Dr. Hunter such clerical assistance as he may require, so that his own time may be devoted to devising the necessary measures for coping with the disease.

I am, &c.

(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 7.

Consul Cookson to Earl Granville.—(Received July 16.)*

My Lord,

Alexandria, July 5, 1883.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith a despatch from Mr. Miéville, inclosing a Memorandum on the origin of the outbreak of cholera at Damietta, in which I entirely concur.

I have, &c.

(Signed) CHAS. A. COOKSON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 7.

Consul Miéville to Consul Cookson.

Sir,

Alexandria, July 4, 1883.

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith a Memorandum on the origin of the recent outbreak of cholera at Damietta.

I have, &c.

(Signed) W. F. MIÉVILLE,
British Sanitary Delegate.

* Substance telegraphed.

† No. 5.

Inclosure 2 in No. 7.

Memorandum by Consul Miéville on the Origin of the Outbreak of Cholera at Damietta.

THE news from Damietta did not assume definite shape, or at least was not fully confirmed, until Sunday, the 24th June, on which day Committees of medical men left both Alexandria and Cairo in order to ascertain on the spot the origin and exact nature of the outbreak. The two Delegations joined at Damietta, and after a stay in the town of less than eighteen hours they came away, and reported that the disease was epidemic cholera, but that they were unable to say whether or no it had been imported.

To show how the disease originated seems in these circumstances very difficult, but, after careful consideration, I submit that it is sufficiently clear that the outbreak is due entirely to local causes, and that it could not have been imported.

The broad facts which lead me to this conclusion are, that for months past reports from the districts of Damietta and Mansourah have pointed plainly to the inference that, should sanitary measures be not promptly taken, some dire calamity must, sooner or later, befall the population. Bovine typhus was devastating the district, though the natives denied all knowledge of it, and endeavoured to hide its very existence by having the animals slaughtered as soon as attacked, the tainted meat being sold for food, and the skins disposed of only too readily to clandestine dealers, who store them until favourable opportunity offers for their export.

Animals dying before they could be killed were thrown by scores into the nearest canals, sometimes literally blocking the water-way, and these canals have all a common outlet—the Nile; and at Damietta, situated as it is on a semi-circular bend of the river, many of the carcasses were caught in the reeds near the banks and left to putrefy in the sun and send off poisonous exhalations. The town itself, also, inhabited by some 34,000 souls, is poorly built, almost totally un-Europeanized, and always in a wretchedly bad sanitary condition.

Again, at the time of the outbreak there was a great fair being held in the town, called the Fair of Sidi Shattar, and, with a population already poisoned by living to a great extent during the previous three months on diseased meat, and having only tainted water to drink, I hold that it needed but this unusual agglomeration of persons to cause the calamitous sickness.

On the other hand, we have strong presumptive evidence that the disease could not possibly have been imported. The nearest place known to be infected with cholera was Bombay, and we are assured on high medical authority that there it was not of an epidemic character. The weekly mortality from cholera in that city rose, it is true, in the beginning of May, somewhat suddenly from five to twenty-eight, but quarantine (fourteen days, inclusive of time at sea) was at once imposed in Egyptian ports, and this quarantine was not taken off at Suez until the 27th June, five days after the commencement of the outbreak at Damietta, though the weekly number of deaths in Bombay from cholera had by the 5th June once more receded to four.

Since July 6, 1882, I have had the honour to hold the position of British Delegate on the Sanitary Council, whose responsible duty it is to protect Egypt from the importation of disease. Before I became a member of this body, general and specific Rules of action had been framed by a Committee of its members. These Rules were duly adopted by the Board in the autumn of 1882, and have since that time formed the basis of its decisions.

My voting power on the Board is very small, as I have only one voice among its twenty-two other members; but, acting in accordance, as I believe, with the spirit and letter of the instructions conveyed to me from Her Majesty's Government, I have uniformly endeavoured to secure that the Board should not capriciously set aside its own Rules, or, by imposing absurd or vexatious quarantines, go beyond them.

Her Majesty's Government, while approving my course of action, have, it is true, sent me from time to time fresh instructions in this same sense, but I have never received instructions to interfere with, or in any way to endeavour to over-ride, the Quarantine Regulations framed by the Board itself for the preservation of Egypt, nor have such Regulations in any single instance been relaxed in consequence of representations, direct or indirect, from England.

True, I have fought many a battle with my colleagues in the interests of British ship-owners and of the vast British commerce with the East, but I emphatically assert (and I might appeal to the official records to substantiate my assertion) that I have never for a moment allowed the interests of commerce to in any way take the first place to the danger of the public health. I have doubtless protested strongly and repeatedly

against sudden and arbitrary changes in the Regulations, but I have always held the preservation of Egypt to be my first duty, and have only, as a secondary though very important consideration, striven to secure that, in affording Egypt protection, undue and vexatious restraints should not be placed on trade and navigation.

If I have travelled somewhat beyond the immediate question at issue, I have done so in order to show that no relaxation of precautions has at any time taken place in consequence of British interference.

(Signed) WALTER F. MIÉVILLE.

Alexandria, July 4, 1883.

No. 8.

Sir E. Malet to Earl Granville.—(Received July 16.)

(Telegraphic.)

Cairo, July 16, 1883, 8.40 A.M.

THE following seven European doctors have been sent by the Board of Health to the infected places:—Drs. Winkler, Ingigliardi, Dutrieux, Romano, Ferrari, Flood, Hasper; also six Egyptian doctors possessing European diplomas.

No. 9.

Sir E. Malet to Earl Granville.—(Received July 17, 11.5 A.M.)

(Telegraphic.)

Cairo, July 17, 1883, 11 A.M.

THE sanitary cordons, which produce great hardship on the population, and can only be justified so long as they keep the cholera from spreading, are about to be removed on account of the disease having appeared in so many places that they are considered needless.

It is intended that a discussion shall take place and a decision be come to to-day as to isolating Alexandria and Ismaïlia.

No. 10.

Sir E. Malet to Earl Granville.—(Received by telegraph, July 18.)

My Lord,

Cairo, July 18, 1883.

I HAVE the honour to inform your Lordship that, seeing the spread of the cholera in many parts of the country, the Government of His Highness the Khedive would be obliged if Her Majesty's Government would send out as soon as possible twelve doctors; and they at the same time beg that, pending their arrival, the military doctors may be authorized to lend their assistance.

I have, &c.

(Signed) EDWARD B. MALET.

No. 11.

Consul Cookson to Earl Granville.—(Received July 19.)

My Lord,

Alexandria, July 10, 1883.

I HAVE the honour to forward to your Lordship herewith a despatch addressed to me by Mr. Miéville respecting the progress of the cholera outbreak at Damietta, and the measures taken by the Egyptian Government.

I have, &c.

(Signed) CHAS. A. COOKSON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 11.

Consul Miéville to Consul Cookson.

Sir,

Alexandria, July 10, 1883.

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith copy of a letter, dated the 30th June, addressed to the President of the Quarantine and Maritime Sanitary Council by Dr. Ferrari, the quarantine officer at Damietta, respecting the measures which had up to that date been taken by the Government to grapple with and prevent the spread of the disease.

Dr. Ferrari reports the arrival of three doctors, to each of whom a district was at once allotted, and a chemist, who was immediately sent to the hospital where, it would seem that, prior to his arrival, much delay had been experienced before prescriptions were made up and dispensed. The letter goes on to say that with this help it was hoped that the mortality would decrease daily (which has happily actually been the case) and the disease be stamped out.

Mention is then made of the number of carcasses of animals that daily continued to drift down the Nile, many being stopped as heretofore by the rushes near the town itself. I should add, however, that the Egyptian Government have since taken active measures to have these carcasses removed, and that by the 6th instant sixty had been buried.

The Report ends by detailing the outposts and line of the sanitary cordon. This, however, has doubtless been now modified considerably, as, since the 30th June, the disease has spread greatly.

I inclose official copy of the most complete Table as yet procurable of the total mortality at Damietta from the 20th to the 28th June.

I further inclose a copy of the supplement of the official "Moniteur Égyptien," detailing the measures taken by the Government up to yesterday. The statement in the fourth paragraph from the end, to the effect that the Commission sent to Damietta declared the cholera to be "Asiatic," is not, I submit, borne out by the Report which accompanied my despatch of the 29th June.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

W. F. MIÉVILLE,

British Delegate.

Inclosure 2 in No. 11.

*Dr. Ferrari to Dr. Hassan.**Damiette, le 30 Juin, 1883.*

J'AI tardé jusqu'à présent à vous expédier ce Rapport, et c'est en attendant toujours l'arrivée des médecins pour pouvoir informer votre Excellence des mesures qui auraient été prises.

Aujourd'hui, à 3 heures de l'après-midi, un train est arrivé portant avec lui trois médecins et un pharmacien. Les médecins ont été ordonné de se placer un à chaque quartier, comme je l'avais proposé à son Excellence le Gouverneur, et tel que je vous l'avais télégraphié.

Le pharmacien a été tout de suite envoyé à l'hôpital pour servir sans perte de temps toute recette médicale qui lui sera présentée, attendu que durant ces derniers jours pour se procurer un peu de médicaments on devait recourir aux "attarines" (droguistes Arabes) de la ville si on voulait être servi *illico*; autrement, si on devait se les procurer de l'hôpital on était sûr de pouvoir les obtenir une fois le malade expiré, vu le grand temps qu'on était obligé de perdre à remplir une multitude de formalités avant de les obtenir.

En ce moment j'espère qu'en faisant chacun son devoir, comme je suis sûr, on arrivera à obtenir le nombre journalier des attaques, chose qui a été impossible jusqu'à présent, et par les soins qui peuvent être prodigués actuellement aux malades avec ce nouveau personnel on arrivera aussi, je l'espère, à éteindre le fléau.

Je me permets aussi de faire observer à votre Excellence que le nombre des charognes de bœufs et de buffles sans peaux ne cesse d'augmenter chaque jour passant le Nil au milieu de cette ville, le courant les portent sur les rives où elles stationnent entre les roseaux et répandent des exhalations qui, avec les chaleurs actuels, votre Excellence pourra bien juger de quel danger peuvent être à la santé publique.

Le cordon sanitaire est composé actuellement de 400 soldats, commandés par le Sakol Agassi Mohamed Effendi Akif, et sous les ordres de M. l'Inspecteur Sanitaire, Dr. de Romano, et se trouve placé autour de la ville de la manière suivante :—

(a.) Sur la route de la Province Dakahlieh, trois postes de garde comme suit :—

1. El-Enanieh embouchure reliant le Nil avec le Lac Menzaleh.
2. Kantara El-Beda, pont établi sur le susdit Canal El-Enanieh.
3. Ezbet El-Saïd Nehman Bakri.

(b.) Sur la route conduisant à Port-Saïd et Zagazig (bords du Lac Menzaleh), six postes, comme suit :—

1. Débarcadère Mehebbe.
2. „ Chat El-Sayaleh.
3. „ Chat Guet El-Massara.
4. „ Chek Chata.
5. „ Les Salines.
6. „ Fort à l'est du Bogar (embouchure sur la route de Port-Saïd, voie de terre).

(c.) Sur la route conduisant à Tantah à l'ouest du Nil, quatre postes, comme suit :—

1. Fort contigu à l'Abadieh El-Manchidi, propriété de Hassan Bèy El Markabi.
2. Point sur la ligne du chemin de fer dominant la route des Salines de Cafr-el-Battih.
3. Fort No. 3.

4. Chemin contigu à l'usine de l'Abadieh de M. Basile Fakre.

Le caractère de l'épidémie est toujours le même en ville ; cependant, je suis heureux de vous faire connaître qu'à l'Ezbet il n'y a eu jusqu'à présent aucun cas.

L'état détaillé de la mortalité générale, je vous l'adresserai demain, m'ayant manqué le temps nécessaire pour le finir.

Veuillez, &c.

Le Directeur,

(Signé) DR. FERRARI.

(Translation.)

Damietta, June 30, 1883.

I HAVE waited till now to send off this Report, so as to be able to inform your Excellency of the measures taken on the arrival of the doctors.

To-day at 3 P.M. a train arrived bringing three doctors and a druggist. The doctors were ordered to place themselves one in each quarter of the town, as I had proposed to his Excellency the Governor, and as I had telegraphed to you.

The druggist was at once sent to the hospital in order that he might be able to dispense without delay any prescription that might be handed to him, because lately, in order to get any medicines then and there, it had been necessary to go to the "attarines" (Arab druggists), for if the medicines were sought at the hospital, the patient was sure to die before they could be obtained, owing to the numerous formalities which had to be gone through.

I hope that now, if all do their duty, as I am sure they will, the daily number of cases will be obtained, which has not been possible hitherto, and I hope also that the care which the arrival of the doctors will render it possible to give to the sick will stamp out the disease.

I would also point out to your Excellency that the number of skinned carcasses of oxen and buffaloes continues to increase daily, as the current of the Nile as it passes through the town carries them to the banks, where they stop in the reeds and give out exhalations, of the danger of which to the public health in such heat your Excellency can well judge.

The sanitary cordon, which is now composed of 400 soldiers commanded by the Sakol Agassi Mohamed Effendi Akif, is under the orders of the Sanitary Inspector, Dr. de Romano, and is placed round the town in the following manner :—

(a.) On the road to the Dakahlieh Province three guards as follows :—

1. El-Enanieh, the junction of the Nile and Lake Menzaleh.
2. Kantara El-Beda, the bridge over the above-mentioned El-Enanieh Canal.
3. Ezbet El-Saïd Nehman Bakri.

(b.) On the road to Port Saïd and Zagazig (banks of Lake Menzaleh), six guards, as follows :—

1. Landing stage at Mehebbe.
2. „ Chat El-Sayaleh.
3. „ Chat Guet El-Massara.
4. „ Chek Chata.
5. „ The Salt Works.
6. „ The fort to the east of the Bogar (the mouth on the Port Saïd road, land route).

(c.) On the road leading to Tantah to the west of the Nile, four guards, as follows:—

1. Fort close to the Abadieh El-Manchidi, the property of Hassan Bey El-Markabi.

2. Point on railway above the Salt Works of Cafr-el-Battih.

3. Fort No. 3.

4. Road close to M. Basile Fakre's works at the Abadieh.

In the town the character of the epidemic remains the same; but I am happy to be able to inform you that there has been as yet no case at Ezbet.

I will send you the detailed accounts of the general mortality to-morrow, as I have not had time to finish them yet.

I have, &c.

(Signed) DR. FERRARI, *Director*.

Inclosure 3 in No. 11.

TABLEAU de la Mortalité à Damiette du 20 au 28 Juin, 1883.

Date.	Sexes.				Total.	Observations.
	Hommes.	Femmes.	Garçons.	Filles.		
Juin 20 .. ..	..	1	2	1	4	
„ 21 .. ..	..	.	1	..	1	
„ 22	2	3	4	5	14	
„ 23	4	12	2	5	23	
„ 24	4	8	8	5	25	Dont 15 suspects.
„ 25	12	13	6	11	42	„ 32 „
„ 26	7	10	19	11	47	„ 37 „
„ 27	31	30	38	30	129	„ 113 de choléra.
„ 28	22	22	39	23	106	„ 101 „
Total	82	99	119	91	391	298

Inclosure 4 in No. 11.

Supplement to the "Moniteur Égyptien" of July 9, 1883.

SON Excellence Salem Pacha, Président du Conseil de Santé et d'Hygiène Publique, a adressé à Son Altesse le Khédive le Rapport suivant sur les mesures prises par le Conseil de Santé et d'Hygiène Publique en vue d'empêcher l'extension du choléra et de l'étouffer dans les foyers où il a été importé.

1. Dès l'annonce de l'apparition d'une maladie suspecte de choléra à Damiette, 23 Juin, le Président du Conseil de Santé et d'Hygiène Publique y faisait envoyer les Médecins-en-chef des Provinces Garbieh et Dakahlieh pour s'assurer de la nature de la maladie et prendre les mesures opportunes; il pria ensuite le Ministère de l'Intérieur, par dépêche, de faire suspendre les communications et organiser un cordon.

2. Le Ministère de l'Intérieur, de son côté, envoyait dès le 24 Juin une Commission, composée de MM. les Drs. Dacorogna Bey, Ahmet Bey Hamdi, Grant Bey, et Abdel Rahman Bey Herraoui, chargée d'étudier la maladie. Cette Commission s'unit à Damiette à celle envoyée par le Conseil Sanitaire Maritime et Quarantenaire, et rédigea ensemble un Rapport. Mais avant de quitter Damiette, elle eut soin de prescrire des mesures d'isolement, de désinfection, &c., et d'adresser des recommandations dans l'intérêt publique.

La Commission retourna au Caire, et le jour même de nouveaux ordres furent donnés pour l'interruption de communication avec Damiette et l'organisation d'un cordon. Peu d'heures après, le Médecin-en-chef de la Dakahlieh annonçait la constatation de deux cas de choléra à Mansourah, et des mesures d'urgence furent prises. La maladie a, depuis, pris de plus grandes proportions à Damiette et Mansourah, et s'est manifestée à Port-Saïd, Samanoud, et Cherbine; un cas sporadique a été constaté à Tantah et un autre à Alexandrie; dans toutes ces dernières localités les premières personnes atteintes provenaient de Damiette.

Le Conseil de Santé et d'Hygiène Publique, d'accord avec Son Excellence le Ministre de l'Intérieur, dont le concours constant et précieux assurait l'exécution de ses décisions, forma autour de toutes les localités atteintes un cordon bien organisé de

troupes, sous le commandement d'officiers supérieurs et la surveillance des Inspecteurs Dr. de Romano pour Damiette, Dr. Mahmoud Sidki pour Mansourah, et envoya dans chacune de ces localités un personnel médical et pharmaceutique nombreux et capable, des médicaments et désinfectants en grande quantité.

Des mesures d'hygiène et de salubrité ont été ordonnées et exécutées non seulement dans les villes atteintes mais dans toute l'Égypte et principalement au Caire et à Alexandrie.

Ces mesures consistent :

Dans la surveillance des marchés, abattoirs, et lieux publics ; l'interdiction de la vente du poisson appelé "fissihs," la saisie du poisson frais, des légumes, fruits, et de toutes les substances livrées à la consommation qui seraient trouvées gâtées ou altérées.

La défense de transporter le "fissih," les peaux fraîches ou non tannées, les os et chiffons qui devront être enfermés dans des magasins spéciaux. Surveiller les canaux, fleuve, empêcher qu'on y jette des animaux morts, retirer et faire enfouir ceux qui s'y trouvent. Un service d'inspection sur le fleuve et les canaux a été organisé et confié à Mr. Goodall.

Désinfection des latrines des mosquées, casernes, prisons, écoles et autres établissements publics ; les conduits des mosquées devront être désinfectés et murés.

Désinfecter les maisons où il y a eu des malades atteints de choléra, brûler les hardes et effets ayant appartenu aux morts.

Organiser des services de désinfection pour la correspondance provenant de Damiette, Mansourah, Port-Saïd.

Installer des hôpitaux pour les cholériques à Damiette, Mansourah, et Port-Saïd, en préparer un au Caire pouvant contenir 200 malades pour toutes éventualités.

Faire boucher les conduits des maisons et des égouts se jetant dans le Halig qui a été désinfecté en y jetant la chaux vive sur tout son parcours et principalement dans les endroits où il y a des eaux stagnantes.

Pour Damiette, il a été ordonné de disperser la population des quartiers contaminés hors de la ville et dans l'enceinte du cordon sanitaire établi.

Des tentes, des gourbis en matras, et des baraques en bois ont été dressés pour recevoir les habitants ; leurs habitations seront scrupuleusement désinfectées, des masures démolies et détruites ; les hardes et vêtements des cholériques morts seront brûlés.

La Commission Sanitaire Permanente, à laquelle prennent part son Excellence le Ministre de l'Intérieur, le Préfet de Police, le Commandant-en-chef de la Gendarmerie, et le Sous-Ministre des Travaux Publics ordonne et fait exécuter d'urgence toutes les mesures qui sont adoptées et propres à améliorer ou assurer la salubrité publique.

Toutes ces mesures ont arrêté la marche de la maladie qui, dans l'épidémie de 1865, avait en peu de jours envahi toute l'Égypte, tandis que cette fois il y a déjà quatorze jours qu'elle a fait son apparition et elle est restée circonscrite à quelques localités.

Cette maladie est bien le choléra Asiatique, ainsi que l'a constaté la Commission envoyée à Damiette, et le Rapport adressé par le Médecin Sanitaire de Port-Saïd démontre que les symptômes sont bien caractéristiques et bien ceux du choléra Asiatique.

Or, la Conférence Internationale de Constantinople a considéré comme démontré que le choléra Asiatique envahissant ne s'est jamais développé spontanément et n'a jamais été observé à l'état endémique en Europe et en Égypte et qu'il est toujours venu du dehors, même au Hedjaz, où le choléra se développe souvent.

La Conférence retient qu'il ne paraît pas y avoir un foyer originel mais qu'il semble y avoir été jusque là toujours importé du dehors.

Ces conclusions viennent confirmer l'opinion du Conseil de Santé que le choléra a dû être importé du dehors, et des recherches sont faites pour arriver à découvrir son origine à Damiette, et il espère qu'elles aboutiront à un bon résultat.

(Translation.)

HIS Excellency Salem Pasha, President of the Public Health and Sanitary Board, has sent to His Highness the Khedive the following Report on the measures taken by the Public Health and Sanitary Board with the view of preventing the extension of the cholera and of stamping it out at the centres of infection to which it has been brought.

1. As soon as the President of the Public Health and Sanitary Board was informed that an illness, suspected to be cholera, had appeared at Damietta on the 23rd June, he sent thither the chief medical men of the Provinces of Garbieh and

Dakahlieh to ascertain the nature of the malady, and to take such measures as might be necessary. He then begged the Minister of the Interior by telegram to stop communications and to establish a cordon.

2. On the 24th June the Minister of the Interior sent a Committee, consisting of Drs. Dacorogna Bey, Ahmet Bey Hamdi, Grant Bey, and Abdel Rahman Bey Herraoui, with instructions to investigate the disease. At Damietta this Committee joined that which had been sent by the Maritime Sanitary and Quarantine Board, and the two together drew up a Report. But before leaving Damietta the Committee ordered steps to be taken for isolation, disinfection, &c., and for issuing instructions and advice to the public.

The Committee returned to Cairo, and the same day fresh orders were given to interrupt communications with Damietta and to organize a cordon. A few hours afterwards the chief doctor of Dakahlieh announced the existence of two cases of cholera at Mansourah, and urgent measures were taken. Since then the disease has assumed larger proportions at Damietta and Mansourah, and cases have occurred at Port Saïd, Samanoud, and Sherbin; a sporadic case occurred at Tantah, and another at Alexandria. In all these latter places the persons first attacked had come from Damietta.

The Public Health and Sanitary Board, with the concurrence of his Excellency the Minister of the Interior, whose constant and valuable assistance insure the execution of its decisions, formed round the infected spots well-organized cordons of troops under the command of superior officers, and under the supervision of the Inspectors Dr. de Romano for Damietta, and Dr. Mahmoud Sidki for Mansourah, and sent to each of those places a large number of efficient medical men and druggists, and a large quantity of medicines and disinfectants.

Hygienic and sanitary measures have been ordered and executed, not only in the towns which have been attacked, but throughout Egypt, particularly at Cairo and Alexandria.

These measures are as follows :—

The supervision of markets, slaughter-houses, and public places; the prohibition of the sale of the fish called “fissihs,” the seizure of fresh fish, vegetables, fruit, or of any food offered for sale and found to be spoilt or tainted.

The prohibition of the transport of “fissihs,” of fresh or untanned hides, of bones and of rags, which must be placed in special warehouses.

The superintendence of the river and canals so as to prevent dead animals being thrown into them, and to have those which are in them taken out and buried. A service of inspection of the river and canals has been organized and intrusted to Mr. Goodall.

The disinfection of the latrines of the mosques, barracks, prisons, schools, and other public establishments; the drains of the mosques will be disinfected and walled over.

To disinfect the houses where there have been patients attacked by cholera, and to burn the rags and clothes of those who have died.

To organize a service for the disinfection of correspondence from Damietta, Mansourah, and Port Saïd.

To start hospitals for the cholera patients at Damietta, Mansourah, and Port Saïd, and to establish one at Cairo to contain 200 patients, in case it should be needed.

To close up the house and street drains emptying themselves into the Halig, which has been disinfected by throwing quicklime into it throughout its course, and more particularly at the stagnant places.

Orders have been given to remove the population of the infected quarters of Damietta to places outside the town, but inside the sanitary cordon which has been established.

Tents, “gourbis,” and wooden huts have been put up to receive the inhabitants; their dwellings will be carefully disinfected, the hovels will be demolished and destroyed, and the rags and clothes of deceased cholera patients will be burnt.

The Permanent Sanitary Committee, of which his Excellency the Minister of the Interior, the Prefect of Police, the Commander-in-chief of the Constabulary, and the Under-Minister of Public Works are members, orders all the measures which are adopted, and are calculated to insure the protection of public health, and has them executed at once.

These measures have arrested the progress of the disease, which, in the epidemic of 1865, had in a few days spread over the whole of Egypt; whilst, in this instance,

fourteen days have elapsed since its appearance, and it has remained localized in a few places.

As the Committee sent to Damietta has ascertained, the disease is Asiatic cholera; and the Report sent in by the Sanitary Doctor of Port Saïd shows that the symptoms are very marked, and are undoubtedly those of Asiatic cholera.

The International Conference at Constantinople considered it proved that epidemic Asiatic cholera has never developed itself spontaneously, and that it has never been observed in the endemic state in Europe or in Egypt, and that it has always come from without, even at Hedjaz, where outbreaks are frequent.

The Conference abides by the opinion that there never seems to have been an original focus, but that the cholera always seems heretofore to have been imported from without.

These conclusions confirm the Board of Health in its opinion that the cholera must have been imported, and investigations are being made to discover its origin at Damietta, and it is hoped that they will be successful.

No. 12.

Consul Cookson to Earl Granville.—(Received July 19.)

My Lord,

Alexandria, July 10, 1883.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith, under flying seal, two despatches, dated respectively the 7th and 9th instant, addressed to your Lordship by Dr. Mackie, Consular Surgeon at Alexandria, respecting the recent outbreak of cholera at Damietta.

I have, &c.

(Signed) CHAS. A. COOKSON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 12.

Dr. Mackie to Earl Granville.

(Extract.)

Alexandria, July 7, 1883.

I REGRET that up to the present I have been unable to obtain precise information with regard to the outbreak of cholera at Damietta, as no attempt at inquiry has yet been made to endeavour to arrive at a knowledge of its origin or cause. The existence of "suspected cholera" at Damietta was first made known in Alexandria on Saturday, the 23rd June, with eleven cases for that day, and I believe the first intelligence was conveyed by telegram from private individuals at Damietta. At 10 A.M. on Sunday, the 24th, I called on Dr. Salem Pasha, chief of the Egyptian Sanitary Administration, and found that he had only then heard of it officially, and that it was decided to send a Medical Commission next morning to Damietta to inquire into the truth of the reports and the nature of the malady which had appeared at Damietta. During the day of Sunday I learned by private telegram from Cairo that a Medical Commission was to leave Cairo at 1 P.M. by special train for Damietta. I at once communicated this information to Dr. Hassan Pasha Mahmoud, President of the Maritime and Quarantine Sanitary Board, and it was at once decided to send a Commission from that Board to join the Cairo Commission at Damietta. Dr. Chaffey Bey (Egyptian), who has had great experience of cholera at Jeddah and Mecca; and Dr. Ardouin Bey, Sanitary Inspector of the Quarantine Sanitary Board, left Alexandria at 6 P.M., and next day (Monday) met in consultation their confrères of the Cairo Commission. After visiting several cases, the Commission pronounced the disease undoubted epidemic cholera; but the inquiry did not go beyond this. The members left Damietta on Monday forenoon, and proceeded to Cairo to draw up their Report, but, unfortunately, without obtaining a clue to the origin of the outbreak. As soon as the members of the Commission left, a *cordon sanitaire* was established, and railway communication interrupted at Ras-el-Khalig, about 13 miles from Damietta. In the *procès-verbal* drawn up by the members of the Commission they state that "it was found impossible, notwithstanding their inquiries, to determine the origin of the outbreak or specify whether it was of local origin or had been imported."

The Italian Delegate to the Quarantine Board and I proposed, therefore, that another Commission should be dispatched at once, to study the disease, to try to find out its history, and trace its origin. This met with great opposition, and had to be

abandoned, chiefly from the impossibility of finding medical men (whose opinion was of value) to undertake the mission, on account of the long quarantine to be undergone on returning from Damietta; those engaged in active work here not being able to afford the time.

It was decided, after a few days, that Dr. Chaffey Bey, who has no active employment to necessitate his return here at present, should proceed to Damietta and remain there, to assist with his counsel and experience the Executive authorities, and endeavour to obtain information of the origin of the outbreak. I hope that interesting and useful information will be collected by this willing, intelligent, and energetic employé of the Maritime and Quarantine Board. The suddenness of the outbreak seems to have paralyzed the intelligence of the Egyptian authorities. Their first act was to establish a *cordon sanitaire*, thus preventing all egress, and leaving the unfortunate inhabitants of Damietta to die without help or succour, or chance of escape. For days after the disease broke out telegrams were received daily, complaining of the total want of doctors, medicines, disinfectants, &c. In a town of which the population is stated at 35,000 there seems to have been no organized medical nor hospital service, no help of any sort for rich or poor. They were shut in by a cordon, and left at the mercy of the disease to die in numbers and propagate cholera. No endeavour was made to save the people and stamp out the disease, by driving the inhabitants from the infected part of the town, and camping them out in some healthy place, supplied with good food and water. This they are now doing to some extent. On the 30th June, Dr. Chaffey Bey writes: "Aujourd'hui, à 3 heures de l'après-midi, un train est arrivé portant avec lui trois médecins et un pharmacien," &c. This is the first information we have of help being sent—a week after the outbreak of the disease, when the mortality had reached upwards of a hundred daily.

Until a proper inquiry is made into the origin of the outbreak, whether local or imported, any opinion on the point at present must be more or less speculative. It is matter of experience that outbreaks of zymotic diseases generally are favoured by conditions which certainly have existed in Egypt for some time; whether these conditions or causes contained the necessary germ or material for the production of cholera research may or may not with certainty establish.

For some time past cattle disease (bovine typhus) has been raging epidemically in the delta of the Nile. It has been matter of current report, and, I may say, of general belief, for some time, that many diseased cattle were slaughtered by the fellaheen and sold in the bazaars of the villages for food. To save the expense and trouble of burying those that died, it was and is a common practice to remove the skins and pitch the carcasses into the Nile or nearest canal. The Damietta branch of the Nile, especially in its lower part, from Samanoud and Mansourah, seems to have been particularly favoured in this respect, for the local European press had been for some time receiving information from correspondents at those places that carcasses of animals were constantly floating down the Nile, exhaling a most offensive odour. Dr. Chaffey Bey, in his letter of the 30th June, to which I have referred, says: "Je me permets aussi de faire observer que le nombre des charognes de bœufs et de buffles sans peaux ne cessent d'augmenter chaque jour passant le Nil au milieu de cette ville, le courant les portent sur les rives où elles stationnent entre les roseaux et répandent des exhalations qui avec les chaleurs actuels on pourra bien juger de quel danger peuvent être à la santé publique." The inhabitants, in addition to breathing this poisoned atmosphere, take their water supply directly from the Nile, which, in addition, is about its lowest at this season. It is also subject of report and belief here that natives have been known to drag the carcasses from the river and use them as food. I make this statement with reserve, for although I have heard it repeatedly stated, I am loath to believe it. The heat at the outbreak of the disease, and for some time previously, had been excessive and oppressive, with damp atmosphere. The uncleanness of the town of Damietta, like every Egyptian town, is reported to be abominable, and the inhabitants particularly uncleanly in their persons, their food, and their habits. At the time of the outbreak of the disease a large fair, at which it is estimated that 10,000 people were collected, was being held at Damietta. The Medical Commission, before establishing the *cordon sanitaire*, ordered the people collected at the fair to be dispersed. Such are some of the local causes which would be supposed to favour the development of zymotic disease.

Those who hold that the disease can have originated only by importation pretend that it has been imported from Bombay, and a report has gained a little credence that two Bombay merchants, just arrived in Egypt, were at Damietta fair, and that they brought the germs of the disease either by their persons or their merchandize. I have not been able to trace those two Bombay merchants, nor find out if they showed any

symptoms of cholera. Those who hold that the disease has been imported urge, as a strong reason for this opinion, that cholera has never originated spontaneously in Egypt, and that a short time before the outbreak in Egypt, cholera had assumed a more severe form in Bombay. The precise manner or means by which it has been imported has not been stated, except the report, believed in by some, of the two Bombay merchants, and others of a similar character, such as, for instance, that a fireman ran away from an Indian steamer at Port Saïd, and made straight for Damietta. Those who believe in importation by those means forget, or are ignorant of the fact, that at the time that the two merchants of Bombay must have arrived in Egypt there was a long quarantine at Egyptian ports in the Red Sea against India, which those gentlemen must have undergone before setting foot in Egypt. There remains for them their other argument, that cholera germs may have been conveyed by their merchandize, that they may have been lying dormant in the merchandize for an indefinite period, and escaped destruction by the quarantine disinfection. This, were it likely to be possible, would prove more than anything else the uselessness of quarantine. They forget also, or do not mention, that when our Indian contingent arrived in Egypt last summer cholera was prevailing in Bombay, and no case happened among the troops or camp followers, nor was imported by the mass of clothes, merchandize, material of all sorts which such an equipment must have brought with it. It is still further brought forward as argument, that as the precise nature of cholera germ or infection is not known some peculiar condition may be necessary for its development, and that this year, though not last, the necessary conditions existed and the imported germ gave rise to cholera. Here we come to a combination of an imported and local origin; but without proofs, which we at present do not possess, I cannot believe that with a rigorous quarantine (even if a quarantine was necessary) against India, it can have been imported to Damietta.

The reasons seem very strong in favour of a local origin. When I compare what information we have of this outbreak with my recollections of the severe epidemic of Asiatic cholera which visited Egypt in 1865, I am inclined to believe that it has had its origin in local causes, and will not spread to any alarming extent. The 10,000 people that were dispersed from Damietta fair do not seem to have had cholera amongst them or to have carried cholera with them throughout the length and breadth of Egypt, as they certainly would have done in 1865. At the time of their dispersion the deaths from cholera were already about forty daily, and the type of the disease virulent,—recoveries rare, and death occurring in very many cases after from four to ten hours' illness. The disease has now been prevailing for sixteen days according to our information, and, with the exception of a few cases in Port Saïd and Tantah, and two of suspected cholera in Alexandria, has been limited to the small district from Damietta to Samanoud.

In the epidemic of 1865 the whole country was invaded in less time, and the mortality excessive. The towns of Damietta, Cherbin, Menzaleh, Mansourah, and Samanoud are within short distances of each other, and are all exposed to similar local influences. Some at least, if not all, of the cases at Port Saïd and Tantah are reported to have been refugees from Damietta, but exact information is yet wanting, and cannot be got from the sanitary authorities to whom I have officially applied. Two separate small outbreaks have taken place at Port Saïd, counting a few victims each, and each time have disappeared. This is hardly the usual course of severe Asiatic cholera. Another reason for believing that some local cause was at work is, that at the outbreak of the disease the daily mortality from general diseases also increased very much. The ordinary mortality of Damietta from general diseases, which is four daily, according to sanitary returns, mounted up to fourteen and fifteen daily, as the deaths from cholera reached their daily maximum, and was increasing rapidly for days before cholera was announced; and now the daily mortality from cholera and general diseases have both considerably diminished, the latter being reduced to about ordinary rate. What the general diseases were which increased the death rate I have been unable to find out, the Central Sanitary Board having no information, and the *cordon sanitaire* and quarantine prevent one from going to the spot to learn for one's-self. My recollection of the epidemic of Asiatic cholera of 1865 is, that there was a diminution in death returns from general diseases, and that there were few deaths from any disease but cholera. This, however, admits of explanation, and may be taken for what it is worth.

The sanitary arrangements of the country are as bad as they were in 1865—it is but little changed in that respect. In some of the larger towns, Alexandria, Cairo, &c., magnificent blocks of buildings have been erected, streets paved, &c., but unfortunately all has been done with the most perfect disregard of the first principles of sanitary science, and Alexandria at present, with its vile system of sewers, house drains, and

house sanitary arrangements, seems constructed expressly to propagate and engender zymotic diseases. Many of the sewers have not been cleaned since they were constructed, and they are so constructed that it is next to impossible to clean them. None of the closets, drains, nor sewers are either trapped or ventilated, and the town is full of stinking cesspools. The Europeans and Levantines, especially Syrian house proprietors, surpass the natives even in the construction of unhealthy houses. An energetic effort to cleanse the town is being made by a combined Consular, Medical, and Mercantile Extraordinary Sanitary Commission, composed of forty-four members (Europeans and natives), under the presidency of the Governor of Alexandria, the originating of which is chiefly due to representations made to his Excellency Chérif Pasha by Mr. Anslyn, Consul-General for the Netherlands, and by Mr. Consul Cookson.

This will do some good work in cleansing bazaars, public places, and the exterior of the town; but the house closets untrapped, communicating with filthy drains and cesspools, and sewers unventilated, leaking soil pipes, or rather holes down the centre of walls serving for soil pipes, and allowing extensive leakage, open latrines for servants in the very centre of the kitchens, will still remain to convey infection from family to family, from house to house; and if cholera visits us it is bound to spread, in spite of all that the Extraordinary Sanitary Commission can do. Such is a fair description of the houses of which rich Egyptians and Levantines are proprietors, and for half a floor of which we are obliged to pay a yearly rent of from 150*l.* to 200*l.* Many of the diseases and illnesses contracted in Egypt, and attributed to climate, are solely attributable to bad house drainage.

The Egyptian Government is, as usual, receiving its share of praise and blame for measures taken or neglected to stop this epidemic. Many Europeans, medical men and others, who blame them for not stopping the epidemic, praise loudly the institution of the *cordon sanitaire*: give them a *cordon sanitaire* or quarantine, and they are given a feeling of safety. I believe that the *cordon sanitaire* was the worst means that could have been adopted—I mean as they imposed it. The *cordon* gave a feeling of safety to outsiders, while the inhabitants were left to die within it neglected, to propagate cholera; and the authorities had a day or two to reflect, and make their preparations for the next step. Had they evacuated at once the infected part of the town, and placed a *cordon* to prevent the return of the inhabitants to it, as well as their communication with other villages, I think the disease might have been stamped out. But the Egyptian has no appreciation nor experience of good sanitary arrangements, which he has never seen and never learnt. The sympathy of class for class is too little developed, if it exists at all; their value of life is too low to stimulate them to energetic action. Fatalism also has its effect. The Egyptian in this respect is the Egyptian of a hundred years ago, and deserves help more than blame; but it must be help with authority.

Inclosure 2 in No. 12.

Dr. Mackie to Earl Granville.

My Lord,

Alexandria, July 9, 1883.

SINCE writing my Report of the 7th instant another fatal case of cholera has occurred in this town: the victim was a strong bodied adult male of Austrian nationality. As soon as I heard of the case I went to satisfy myself personally, and found it an undoubted case of cholera, though not of the severest type. Reaction never took place, the algid stage continuing till he died nineteen hours after he was taken ill. I put some questions to him, but he answered with difficulty; he stated, however, that he had not been in the infected districts, nor as far as he was aware had he been in contact with any one who had been there.

The attempt to attribute this outbreak of cholera to importation from Bombay has now assumed here a more formal shape than current reports. The Egyptian Government sanitary doctor at Port Saïd, Dr. Flood (a Norwegian), has published in the "*Moniteur Égyptien*" an official letter written by him to the Board of Health, stating that on the 18th June a native of Upper Egypt named Mohamed Halifa, employed as fireman on board the British steamer "*Timor*," bound from Bombay to Naples, &c., was landed at Port Saïd, and at once proceeded to Damietta. He does not state nor pretend to know whether this man then or afterwards presented symptoms of cholera, nor whether he ever arrived at Damietta or was proved to be there, nor does he state any good reason why he did not infect the inhabitants of Port Saïd except perhaps that he left "*immediately*" without stating the time. He goes on to start a hypothesis, that

perhaps cholera had declared itself on board the "Timor" after leaving Bombay; that it was in the period of incubation in this man at Port Saïd and declared itself at Damietta, but without being able to adduce any proof in support of this. As this letter is published in an official organ the theory is accepted by many here, and I think it would be useful to find out from the log-book of the vessel (1) whether the man was landed and if in good health; (2) date of leaving Bombay, and state of health of crew on passage as far as Port Saïd and after.

The sanitary doctor (a native) at Damietta has also reported in the same official organ, that there were four Bombay merchants at Damietta fair, and he in his turn points to them as the carriers of the infection. I am not aware that any attempt has been made by the sanitary administration or other to trace those men, which ought not to be difficult. This is much to be regretted, as these reports have their advocates here and in Europe, and it would be in the interests of all that the origin of the outbreak should be traced, if it can be traced, to its local or imported origin. Dr. Flood, sanitary physician at Port Saïd, mentions in a letter published to-day in the "Phare d'Alexandrie," that it is his belief that all the cases of cholera at Port Saïd up to the 30th June (eight in number) were in people who had been at Damietta fair. Since the 30th June only three more cases have been reported from Port Saïd (viz., on the 4th July), and no attacks since then.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. MACKIE.

No. 13.

Earl Granville to Sir E. Malet.

(Telegraphic.)

Foreign Office, July 19, 1883, 6.15 P.M.

INFORM Egyptian Government that their request for doctors will be complied with.*

No. 14.

Earl Granville to Sir E. Malet.

(Telegraphic.)

Foreign Office, July 21, 1883, 1.50 P.M.

WAR OFFICE have authorized British medical officers to help the Egyptian staff, whenever they can do so without interfering with their military duties, until the English doctors arrive.*

No. 15.

Earl Granville to Sir E. Malet.

(Telegraphic.)

Foreign Office, July 21, 1883, 4.30 P.M.

THE Government of India have been requested to be in readiness to send Mahommedan doctors to Egypt should Egyptian Government want them. Telegraph direct to India.

No. 16.

Sir E. Malet to Earl Granville.—(Received July 21.)

(Telegraphic.)

Cairo, July 21, 1883, 9.30 A.M.

I CALLED the attention of the Government to the question of the burials of the dead on the 17th instant, and received answer from the Minister of the Interior that means were deficient, but that the matter already occupied the attention of the Government, and that he promised to do his best to remedy the evil.

No. 17.

Sir E. Malet to Earl Granville.—(Received by telegraph, July 22.)

Cairo, July 22, 1883.

My Lord,

I HAVE the honour to report that, unmistakable signs having shown themselves of the want of authority and of intelligent execution of orders in dealing with the cholera here, I have asked Khairy Pasha, the Minister of the Interior, to form a Commission with full powers both to give orders and to execute them.

This Commission is to consist of the members of the Ministry now in Cairo, with the addition of General Stephenson, Sir Evelyn Wood, and General Baker, which was made with the concurrence of General Stephenson. His Excellency having consented to my proposal, they will meet to-day at 4 o'clock.

I have, &c.

(Signed) EDWARD B. MALET.

No. 18.

Earl Granville to Sir E. Malet.

(Telegraphic.)

Foreign Office, July 24, 1883, 4.10 P.M.

DRS. ACLAND and Gulliver leave for Alexandria this evening. Most, if not all, of the others will leave on Thursday.

No. 19.

Consul Cookson to Earl Granville.—(Received August 2.)

My Lord,

Alexandria, July 22, 1883.

I HAVE the honour to report that, in consequence of the appearance of the cholera at Damietta, the Consular Body of Alexandria met on the 26th June and elected a Consular Committee to represent them, with the object of requesting the Egyptian Government to appoint an Extraordinary Commission to take the sanitary measures necessary under present circumstances.

The Consular Committee was constituted as follows:—

M. Anslyn, Agent and Consul-General of the Netherlands.

M. Dumreicher, Consul-General of Denmark.

M. Byzantios, Agent and Consul-General of Greece.

M. Heidenstam, Consul-General of Sweden.

M. Machiavelli, Consul of Italy.

M. Monge, Consul of France: and myself, as Consul of Great Britain.

The same afternoon the Consular Commission had an interview with the Khedive on the subject. His Highness received us with the greatest kindness, and assured us of his support and co-operation, and said that he would reply through the President of the Council of Ministry.

The next day, the 27th June, the Governor of Alexandria summoned the Consular Delegation, together with the doctors of the Quarantine Board of Alexandria, and read a letter from Chérif Pasha stating the proposed composition of the Commission. But as we found the letter silent as to the powers of the Commission and the means to be given for carrying out its decisions, the Consular Delegation thought better to treat this letter as only an announcement of the intentions of the Government. We accordingly merely thanked the Government for the communication, and withdrew.

M. Anslyn and I were therefore charged to see Chérif Pasha, which we did immediately, and represented to his Excellency the wishes of our colleagues. We asked that the Commission should be allowed the funds and police force necessary to carry out its decisions. His Excellency accepted willingly the co-operation which we offered him, but told us that the Government could only furnish the Commission with funds through the Governor of Alexandria, who would also be ordered to provide the requisite police force, and he promised that an official letter in this sense should be prepared.

On the 28th June M. Anslyn and I had an interview with Tigrane Pasha, Sub-Minister of Foreign Affairs, at which we agreed to the terms of the letter to be

written to M. Anslyn, and on the 29th the Governor of Alexandria summoned the Consular Delegates, and read the despatch from Chérif Pasha which had been agreed upon by us. M. Anslyn received also the same day a letter in the same sense.

At the meeting of the 29th it was agreed that the Governor, in his capacity of President, should summon the full Commission as soon as possible.

Accordingly, yesterday, the 1st July, the Commission met, and the Governor read the letters from Chérif Pasha to himself and M. Anslyn. The Commission then proceeded to organize itself into an Executive Committee, three special Sub-Committees charged respectively with looking after the food and drink, the cleansing and the disinfection of the town, and five local Sub-Committees, one for each of the four quarters of Alexandria and one for Ramleh.

This morning the first meeting of the Executive Committee was held, when arrangements were made for the mode of meeting the expenses of the Commission, and the seven medical men in the Executive Committee undertook to draw up general instructions to the public on the precautions to be taken by every one during the continuance of the present disease.

It may be hoped that the efforts thus being made will do much to improve the sanitary condition of Alexandria, and to prepare it for an outbreak of cholera if one should unhappily take place.

I have, &c.
(Signed) CHAS. A. COOKSON.

No. 20.

Sir E. Malet to Earl Granville.—(Received July 25.)

My Lord,

Cairo, July 16, 1883.

I HAVE the honour to inclose herewith copies of Reports from Mr. Murdoch, British Consular Agent at Mansourah, respecting the cholera there. I have communicated the contents of these Reports to the Minister of the Interior, and I believe that they have been of great service in conveying the most accurate information which has been sent from Mansourah as to what is passing. I gather from Mr. Murdoch's accounts that, although there has been great anxiety lest provisions should fail, no such misfortune has actually taken place, and that provisions have mostly maintained their normal prices; but that a large number of refugees in a destitute state have entered Mansourah, and that these have been exposed to much hardship, not from lack of provisions, but from lack of means to purchase them. I have not ceased my representations to the Minister of the Interior on this point, and the complaint that there were not enough doctors. I have the honour to inclose a copy of a letter, and inclosure, from his Excellency on the subject.

I have, &c.
(Signed) EDWARD B. MALET.

Inclosure 1 in No. 20.

Mr. Murdoch to Vice-Consul Borg.

(Extract.)

Mansourah, July 4, 1883.

I AM sorry for the delay that has occurred in sending you the list of cholera cases here, but, on account of the great amount of extra work entailed on the authorities by this epidemic, I have had difficulty in obtaining correct lists of cases.

I now beg to inclose list of cases to date, from which you will observe that the cholera has not made very much progress here as yet, although yesterday is the heaviest list of all, and I learn that fifteen deaths have been recorded to-day.

The thermometric observations are taken from a Fahrenheit thermometer, and may be depended upon as being correct; it is placed in the sitting-room of my house. The direction of the wind has been almost continuously north-west, and the slight change to west yesterday was accompanied by a little stronger breeze than usual.

I have been unable to reckon the time from midnight to midnight as you suggest, as the Sanitary authorities reckon from sunset to sunset, and, although I instituted inquiries with a view to arranging my list as you desire, I found it impossible to ascertain exactly the hour of each case of death, and I have therefore taken the list as

they make it out. Should you consider that it is important to alter the time, I will ask Dr. Sidky Bey to do so.

Two of the stagnant pools about the town have been filled up, but there are a good many more that are not yet commenced, and I have impressed upon his Excellency the Moudir the importance of having these others done at once, and he has sent circulars to the proprietors of the land on which these pools are to have them filled up immediately, and I understand the work is being proceeded with.

Dead Carcasses.—A number of men and a boat have been placed a considerable distance above the town, and any carcasses that may come floating down are immediately taken out of the river and buried with quicklime, so that nuisance is abated.

The cleaning and watering of the streets is being well looked after, and a number of persons have been sent to the houses of the poorer classes with chloride of lime, &c., and nearly all these houses that were in a dirty state have been well disinfected and cleansed.

The disease has been for the most part confined to the quarter of Mit-Hadr, the most north-eastern, or lower, part of the town, and it now appears to be gradually travelling southward, during these last two days the middle and most populous part of the town being most affected.

Fruit and Vegetables have been entirely prohibited, and only such butcher-meat, as mutton, that has been passed by the sanitary authorities, allowed to enter the town.

There is, however, a danger of running short of provisions caused by the refusal of the railway authorities to receive goods at Alexandria for Mansourah, and as this seems an absurd and unnecessary order, I hope the matter will be represented to the Railway Administration, and they will issue the order allowing the goods to be forwarded before the stock at present here reaches famine prices.

Regarding the medicine at present employed in cholera cases here, I have questioned the doctors about it, but they show a reluctance to tell what medicine is most effective, and, as I have not pressed the matter, I do not know what is used, but should you consider that the knowledge is necessary, I will do my best to obtain the information.

A great deal of fear or dread exists among the Europeans, and I understand some of them have telegraphed to their Consuls-General to have a special train sent, as they are most anxious to get away, but I presume it is not possible till the quarantine is at an end. A good deal of the panic is due, no doubt, to the fact that there are so few doctors here (except those in the employ of the Government) to attend to private patients.

A statement appeared in the "Egyptian Gazette" to the effect that the doctors do not attend to their patients, and that there were no medicines, and not even bottles, in the hospital.

From inquiries that I have made I do not think the first accusation is true, but the statement that there were no medicines is quite correct for the first two days of the epidemic, but Dr. Sidky brought a supply of medicines from Cairo, and I believe a good stock is at present here.

The Moudir received a telegram yesterday requesting him to have fires in the streets all through the town, and I observe that the order has been carried out, and bonfires are general in the streets to-day.

Inclosure 2 in No. 20.

List of Deaths from Cholera from June 25 to July 3, 1883, at Mansourah.

			Nationality.	Age.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Total.
June 25, 1883
June 26—									
Khalleeel Barullusy	Arab	25	1	..	..	..
Said Soliman	25	1	..	..	..
Ibraheen Elsahy	38	1	..	..	..
Abdel Hameed-el-Soodany	25	1	..	..	..
Nabyieh Gabriel	Copt	15	..	1	..	..
June 27—							4	1	5
Labeebeh, wife of C. Samne	Levantine	35	..	1	..	1
June 28—							..	1	..
Lateefeh Eldeebbeh	Arab	25	..	1	..	..
Ahmed Ibraheem Arees	28	1	..	..	..
Wardah Abdel Meseeh Rizk	Copt	25	..	1	..	..
Dam Elyzz	Arab	25	..	1	..	..
Sayedeh Negro	20	..	1	..	..
Shilbayeh	5	..	1	..	..
Zuhrah Guncim	40	..	1	..	..
							1	6	7
Ahmed-el-Barbary	Arab	25	1	..	..	..
Fareeda Halaga	1	..	1	..	..
Ahmed Wagwag	40	1	..	..	..
Aly Ibraheem	25	1	..	..	..
Hamdeh Osman	20	..	1	..	..
Sabla, daughter of Mitwalli Noor	18	..	1	..	..
Hamet Mohamed	8	1	..	..	..
Dusuky Abdel Wahab	12	1	..	..	..
Abdel Aziz Elwasify	8	1	..	..	..
							6	3	9
June 30—									
Moh. Ramadan	Arab	14	1	..	..	..
Ilmansy Ismael	4	1	..	..	..
Acheereez Matreesy	Greek	20	1	..	..	..
Shabbayeh Elgalanady	Arab	60	..	1	..	..
Moh. Abdel Galeel	40	1	..	..	..
Mansoor Moh. Elkharasawy	20	1	..	..	..
Ahmed Abul Wafa	85	1	..	..	..
							6	1	7
July 1—									
Ismael Salim	Arab	12	1	..	..	..
Nafeesa Elshawy	25	..	1	..	..
Aly El Gayyar	90	1	..	..	..
Helena Elyan	Levantine	25	..	1	..	..
Ahmed Mohamed	Arab	13	1	..	..	..
Admed, son of Aly Elmursy	10	1	..	..	..
Ahmed Murad	25	1	..	..	..
Nazleh Levi	Jew	23	..	1	..	..
Saleeb Habashy	Copt	40	1	..	..	..
Sayed Abu Umar	Arab	35	1	..	..	..
							7	3	10
July 2—									
Leleh Khaleefeh	Arab	7	..	1	..	..
Moh. Sultan	25	1	..	..	..
Elythamasy Leerat	Greek	45	..	1	..	..
Saddika Nasif	Arab	3	..	1	..	..
Ahmed Hassan	30	1	..	..	..
Moh. Elsherbeeney	25	1	..	..	..
Hannumeh Shihata	4	..	1	..	..
Hag Moh. El Naky	40	1	..	..	..
Moh. Makhallawy	80	1	..	..	..
Imbarka Abdel Aal	90	..	1	..	..
							5	5	10
July 3—									
Moh. Kher-el-Barbary	Arab	28	1	..	..	..
Fameh Sadek	9	..	1	..	..
Khadra Abdelfettah	1	..	1	..	..
Hanna Habashy	Copt	10	1	..	..	..
Moh. Elsamoon	Arab	25	1	..	..	..
Hassan Ismael Areeda	10	1	..	..	..
Moh. Dayyan, the carter	35	1	..	..	..
Ahmed Moh. Elshafhy	37	1	..	..	..
Yoklet Col-pulo	Greek	25	..	1	..	..
Sid Ahmed Soliman Nofal	Arab	12	1	..	..	..

				Nationality.	Age.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Total.
June 29—										
	Fareeda Ibraheem	..	..	Jew	6	..	1			
	Haleema Negro	..	..	Arab	30	..	1			
	Giovanni Giorgio	..	..	Greek	85	1	..			
	Azab Salim	..	..	Arab	90	1	..			
	Faheemeh Shaweesh.	..	..	"	6	..	1			
	Michel Girgis	..	..	Copt	12	1	..			
	Husni Yousif-el-Barbary	..	..	Arab	8	1	..			
	Moh. Eldeeb	..	..	"	50	1	..	12	6	18
Total				..				41	26	67

(Signed) The Head Doctors of the Moudirieh, Dakablieh.

Inclosure 3 in No. 20.

Mr. Murdoch to Vice-Consul Borg.

(Extract.)

Mansourah, July 6, 1883.

I BEG to inform you that the Moudir issued circulars this afternoon calling a meeting of Consular officials and native Notables to advise them of instructions which he had received by telegram from Cairo relative to the evasion of the Quarantine Regulations, to the effect that any person attempting to break through the cordon would be fired upon.

This, it appears, is in answer to his telegram of last night regarding the attempt to pass the cordon by the Syrians, amongst whom it seems there was a Syrian doctor named Mansour Hasny.

The Moudir is to issue circulars to-morrow requesting all Consular officials to advise their subjects of this order.

The death-rate has decreased a little to-day, and we hope the improvement will continue.

A supply of vegetables has been allowed to enter the town to-day, but a great scarcity of meat still exists, and everything is very high in price and insufficient in quantity.

On account of the great number of people at present out of employment, and consequently without means of subsistence, the Moudir asked several of the native Notables to open a subscription list and to assist the poor and indigent with food, &c. This they promised to do at once, and a call was to be made on neighbouring Sheikhs requesting them to send sheep, vegetables, &c., for the benefit of the needy.

Owing to the existence of the sanitary cordon round the town, a great difficulty exists in getting goods (such as provisions, medicines that are now lying at Talha) across to Mansourah. The apothecaries here are completely run out of disinfectants, and the goods lately ordered by them have been (and are now) lying at Talha for the last seven days, and even the medicines ordered by Sidky Bey are now there, and although he went himself and communicated with the authorities at Garbieh side of the river, he failed to obtain delivery of the medicines that are now most urgently wanted here. I do not know who is responsible, but it seems impossible to work a cordon intelligently on the Talha side.

No provisions have yet arrived from Alexandria, and every one complains of the want of food. I trust, therefore, that it will be arranged that such articles as provisions will be allowed to come, and that orders will be issued regarding the medicines now at Talha. The price of everything in the shape of provisions is rising fast, and in a very few days we shall be at famine prices.

Inclosure 4 in No. 20.

Mr. Murdoch to Vice-Consul Borg.

Sir,

Mansourah, July 6, 1883.

I BEG to inclose Return of cases from cholera from the commencement of the epidemic to date.

From a perusal of the list you will observe that the Return of the 4th instant is the heaviest of all, and an improvement has since taken place, which we hope will continue.

Most of the deaths recorded these last two days are from the middle of the town, which at first was free from disease, and the quarter of Mit-Hadr is now comparatively free, there being only one death recorded there yesterday, and thus the apparent tendency of the disease is to travel southwards.

As far as I am aware, no deaths from cholera have occurred at the village of Talha, opposite Mansourah, and I observe that the wind almost invariably blows from that direction towards Mansourah. I understand that no cases of cholera have occurred amongst any of the villages; the epidemic is apparently confined to the large towns, thus suggesting defective sanitary arrangements as the cause.

A number of Syrians (ten), with two women, tried (ineffectually, however) to pass the cordon last night, and were brought back by the soldiers, looking rather ashamed of their foolish conduct. The Moudir admonished them, and told them not to attempt to do so again, or they would be imprisoned,

Some of them hold good positions here, and nearly all of them are men of means.

I am, &c.
(Signed) **FREDERICK T. MURDOCH.**

Inclosure 5 in No. 20.

RETURN of Cases and Deaths from Cholera in the Town of Mansourah from the commencement of the Epidemic (June 25), to July 5, 1883.

Date.	Temperature. Fahr. Ther.		Direction of Wind at 4 P.M.	Number of New Cases.				Number of Deaths.				Europeans.	Natives.
	9 A.M.	4 P.M.		Europeans.		Natives.		Europeans.		Natives.		Total Deaths.	Total Deaths.
				Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.		
June 25 ...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
" 26 ...	...	...	...	...	...	4	3	...	...	4	1	...	5
" 27 ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1
" 28 ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7	...	...	...	6	...	7
" 29 ...	...	89	...	...	...	...	10	...	...	...	6	...	9
" 30 ...	80	88	N.W. ...	...	...	7	4	...	...	4	2	...	6
July 1 ...	78	89	N., very little wind.	1	...	10	7	1	...	7	3	1	10
" 2 ...	79	87	N.W. ...	...	...	9	9	...	...	5	5	...	10
" 3 ...	82	88	W. ...	...	1	20	12	1	11	5	2	...	16
" 4 ...	79	87	N.W. ...	...	...	31	20	...	...	27	16	...	43
" 5 ...	81	88	W., strong breeze ...	1	...	14	5	1	...	19	17	1	36
												4	143

Mostly from the
quarter of Mit
Hadr.

Middle of town all
these. Eighteen
deaths from new
cases to-day.

Showing a total number of deaths from cholera to date of 4 Europeans and 143 natives.

(Signed) **FREDERICK T. MURDOCH.**

July 5, 1883.

Inclosure 6 in No. 20.

Mr. Murdoch to Vice-Consul Borg.

(Extract.)

Mansourah, July 12, 1883.

I HAVE pleasure in informing you that the Moudir gave Saleh Bey Wakeel, of the Moudirieh, Sidky Bey, and Osman Effendi, town's engineer, instructions to accompany me to the present cemetery, and select a piece of land as near to the present one as possible consistent with future extension in case of need, and to avoid proximity to any existing thoroughfare or houses.

On arrival at the land immediately behind the present cemetery, we found the stench very bad, abundantly proving the urgent necessity for a new cemetery. We found a piece of land immediately behind the present cemetery, but entirely out of the town, and not near any houses or roads, and there being no crops on the land, operations are to commence to-morrow to dig out the receptacles for the dead.

The land selected has an area of $5\frac{1}{2}$ feddans, and as the Coptic cemetery is in an equally bad state, and the Jewish and Catholic cemeteries being also full, the Moudir

has decided to take the entire $5\frac{1}{2}$ feddans, so that each sect may have separate lots set apart for their use, and thus avoid any religious contention. The land selected is admirably suited for the purpose, and meets with the approval of most people who have seen it.

I am sorry that I was unable to inclose the list of deaths for yesterday in the list, but I did not get it until too late for the post. I find the greatest number of deaths are from the centre of the town, where, on account of the narrow streets and the close proximity of the houses one to another there is very little ventilation or fresh air.

The son of one of the principal Ulemas died to-day, and a great crowd of people attended the funeral (at least 200), and his body having been taken to the mosque of Sheikh Hassanain, nearly all these people entered, and remained there at least an hour, till the tomb was prepared and closed up. This custom cannot fail to spread the disease to many houses that would otherwise escape, as these people came from different parts of the town; when they dispersed, many of them would carry with them the germs of cholera into their houses, and although they may themselves escape, still any one predisposed would receive the contagion in that way.

Now that the railway is open our principal wants will be supplied in a day or two, and, in fact, it is the closing of the railway that has caused all this talk about shortness of provisions. The stock of flour is exhausted, and the baker is obliged to use Arab flour, which, although not so fine as Trieste, still I think it is quite as wholesome. A stock of flour and other provisions is expected here to-morrow.

The price of mutton is now at its normal rate, and fowls, pigeons, &c., are also reduced in price.

I learn Mr. Goodall has buried over 400 carcasses, besides a large quantity of bones, &c., which he has had taken out of the Nile between Mansourah and Damietta.

Some days ago the Moudir suggested to some of the Notables here that he would be glad if they would contribute something for the support of the poor and unemployed, who were at present without the means of obtaining proper food; and also told them that every one could give in kind what he had most of, such as grain, rice, sheep, fowls, &c. Instead of responding to his appeal in a proper manner, this seems to have created quite a storm of opposition, and when the Moudir saw his idea was not entertained he gave it up; the poor Arabs have therefore to make the best of matters as they are, and borrow bread from their friends who may be better off. I have not heard of any one actually dying from starvation, but I know that the very greatest distress exists amongst the poor, and, unless relief is speedily obtained, many who may escape cholera will die of starvation. Please cause the order to be forwarded as soon as possible for the 2,000 rations.

While every one's attention is at present drawn to the cholera, it is as well to draw the notice of the Minister of the Interior to the state of the Nile banks. There were no repairs made on them last year, and unless some one is sent to examine and report on the defective parts, and have these defects immediately remedied, the country will be in danger of an inundation. The Moudir and Wakeel are both here, and cannot get out, so that some means ought to be at once devised to carry out these necessary repairs to save us from a further misfortune—an inundation.

Inclosure 7 in No. 20.

Mr. Murdoch to Vice-Consul Borg.

Sir,

Mansourah, July 14, 1883.

I HAVE to inform you that the Minister of the Interior has authorized the Moudir regarding the new cemetery, rations, &c.

The order arrived late last night, and immediately I was advised of it I sent off a telegram to Sir E. B. Malet, informing him of its arrival; but the telegraph office had closed, and it will only reach him this morning.

Regarding the food supply, we have just received a consignment of provisions at 6 P.M. this evening, having been at Talha over thirty hours. This arrival relieves our present wants, and, if communication with Alexandria is kept up, we are not likely to run short again.

I have had my attention, during the last few days, drawn to the cordon on the land side round Mansourah, and, as the result of the inquiries that I have made, I am prepared to substantiate the following:—

That the cordon is daily evaded by natives, and large numbers have left the town;

and, in one particular case, a native here has for several days running taken his bullocks out of the town to his land outside the cordon in the morning, and brought them back at sunset, the operation costing him a parise (2s.) per day.

That a considerable number of Greeks and Syrians have succeeded in evading the cordon, and are not now in Mansourah, most of them having left by way of Simbel-lawin, by rail to Cairo, thence to Alexandria; and some of them now write to their friends here from the latter place.

Under these circumstances the cordon is practically useless as a sanitary safeguard against communication with places outside Mansourah.

The work of filling up the stagnant pools is being pushed forward with dispatch, and two of the very worst are now nearly filled up, and will be completed to-morrow.

The work on the cemetery is being proceeded with, and will be ready for the interment of cholera victims in two days.

The deaths to-day, for twenty-four hours, are 23 males, 33 females, natives; 1 male and 2 female Europeans; chiefly from the south-western, or Mit-Talha, district of the town. Mit-Hadr is now almost free from cholera, only one case having taken place there to-day.

Yesterday the Moudir made an examination of some of the houses of the Notables, and found some of their houses in a disgraceful state of filth, notwithstanding all the warnings and advice they have received; and in two or three of the worst cases he caused the owners to be imprisoned—a punishment they well deserved, as, although the Moawins and others who are responsible for the cleansing of the houses and streets had repeatedly warned them to clean and disinfect their houses, only in few instances has a sullen kind of obedience been given to their orders, and a good many paid little or no attention to them whatever.

I learn that Major Holroyd has just arrived, to erect tents and superintend the transport of goods from Talha to Mansourah, and this will doubtless facilitate greatly the entry of provisions, which is the most pressing of our wants.

The cholera does not seem to be so virulent these last two days, but a great number of people complain of choleraic diarrhœa, which does not seem to go beyond that stage. The atmosphere to-day has been as if filled with dust, and quite hazy, similar to a khamseen, although there was no wind till nearly sunset.

The order for rations and the new cemetery has caused, along with the opening of the railway, general satisfaction, and every one hopes, by the use of the tents, &c., to bring to an end this dire disease.

I am, &c.
(Signed) FREDERICK T. MURDOCH.

Inclosure 8 in No. 20.

Khairy Pasha to Sir E. Malet.

Mon cher Ministre,

Le Caire, le 12 Juillet, 1883.

JE réponds immédiatement à votre lettre de ce jour, me communiquant le télégramme qui vous est parvenu hier au soir de votre Agent Consulaire à Mansourah.

Je vais écrire à l'instant même à son Excellence Baker Pacha pour qu'il veuille donner les ordres nécessaires au Commandant du cordon sanitaire de Mansourah de transférer le cordon au delà du Palais pour faire de l'emplacement aux tentes.

Pour ce qui concerne les provisions je ne puis que vous remettre, ci-inclus, traduction d'une dépêche télégraphique que le Moudir de Mansourah vient de m'envoyer; le contenu de laquelle dément complètement les plaintes formulées à ce sujet.

Le Gouvernement a autorisé dès le commencement de la maladie la distribution gratuite des rations aux pauvres; néanmoins je vais en répéter l'ordre au Moudir.

Je ferai connaître à son Excellence Salem Pacha l'objet de la plainte pour ce qui concerne les médecins, mais en attendant je suis en état de vous assurer, mon cher Ministre, que hier encore trois autres médecins indigènes ont été envoyés à Mansourah et qu'un médecin Européen doit avoir été désigné aujourd'hui pour se rendre dans ladite ville.

Veuillez, &c.
(Signé) KHAIRY.

(Translation.)

My dear Minister,

Cairo, July 12, 1883.

I ANSWER at once your letter of to-day, in which you communicate to me the telegram which reached you last evening from your Consular Agent at Mansourah.

I will write at once to his Excellency Baker Pasha, so that he may give the necessary orders to the Commandant of the sanitary cordon of Mansourah for the cordon to be extended to outside the Palace, so as to leave a space for the tents.

As regards provisions, I can only send you the inclosed translation of a telegram which the Mudir of Mansourah has just sent me, and of which the contents entirely disprove the complaints made on the subject.

As soon as the disease showed itself, the Government authorized the distribution of free rations to the poor; but I am about to repeat the order to the Mudir.

I will inform his Excellency Salem Pasha of the object of the complaint, in as far as it relates to the doctors; but, in the meantime, I am in a position to assure you that yesterday three native doctors were sent to Mansourah, and that a European doctor was to have been chosen to-day to go to the town in question.

I have, &c.
(Signed) KHAIRY.

Inclosure 9 in No. 20.

The Mudir of Mansourah to the Minister of the Interior.

(Télégraphique.)

Le 12 Juillet, 1883.

LES vivres, comme d'ordinaire, ne manquent pas. Tout ce qui est nécessaire à la consommation est fourni au fur et à mesure. Ce qui a été rapporté qu'une partie de la population de Mansourah mourrait de faim, n'est pas conforme à la vérité.

La classe aisée de la population peut facilement se procurer aux mêmes prix que par le passé les denrées et toutes les choses dont elle a besoin.

Une partie de la classe ouvrière et des individus qui avaient pour habitude de se livrer à la vente des articles dont l'entrée est actuellement prohibée par les mesures quaranténaires, éprouvaient certaines difficultés à pourvoir à leurs moyens d'existence. Avant même de recevoir l'autorisation que j'avais demandé par le télégraphe à votre Excellence à l'effet de fixer des rations à cette catégorie de gens, tous nos efforts n'ont jamais fait défaut un seul instant pour faire face à tous leurs besoins.

(Translation.)

(Telegraphic.)

July 12, 1883.

PROVISIONS, as usual, are not wanting. All that is required for food is furnished as it is needed. The report that a part of the population of Mansourah is dying of hunger is untrue.

The moderately well-to-do classes of the population can easily obtain, at the same prices as hitherto, all goods and things which they need.

A part of the working class, and of the persons who used to sell the articles of which the entry is now forbidden by quarantine, found some difficulty in providing the means of existence. But even before I received the permission to issue rations to people of this class, for which I telegraphed to your Excellency, our efforts never failed to meet all needs.

No. 21.

Consul Cookson to Earl Granville.—(Received July 25.)

My Lord,

Alexandria, July 16, 1883.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship herewith a despatch addressed to me by Mr. Miéville respecting the alleged importation of the cholera.

I have, &c.
(Signed) CHAS. A. COOKSON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 21.

Consul Miéville to Consul Cookson.

(Extract.)

Alexandria, July 16, 1883.

IN the official "Moniteur Égyptien" of the 7th July a letter was published, of which I have the honour to inclose a copy, in which it is suggested that the cholera had been imported into Damietta by an Arab stoker named Mohamed Khalifeh. The letter states that on the 18th June the man left the British steamer "Timor" from Bombay at Port Saïd, and proceeded at once to Damietta, and insinuates that the disease must have existed on board the vessel, and that the germs were conveyed by the said Mohamed.

The refutation is contained in the man's own story, a copy of whose statement I annex. He deposes that after leaving the "Timor," which had no sickness on board and had taken twenty days to come from Bombay, he remained several days in Port Saïd, and only reached Damietta on the 24th June, two days after cholera had declared itself in that town.

Inclosure 2 in No. 21.

Extract from the "Moniteur Égyptien" of July 7, 1883.

LA lettre suivante a été adressée au Conseil de Santé et d'Hygiène Publique:—

"A son Excellence le Dr. Salem Pacha, Président du Conseil de Santé et d'Hygiène Publique, Caire.

"Excellence,

"Port-Saïd, le 5 Juillet, 1883.

"J'ai l'honneur de vous accuser réception de votre lettre datée du 29 Juin, laquelle ne m'est parvenue qu'avant-hier soir. J'y vois avec satisfaction que l'honorable Conseil partage mes vues sur la route de l'importation de la maladie qui règne épidémiquement à Damiette et Mansourah.

"J'ai l'honneur de communiquer à votre Excellence les résultats de mes investigations.

"Le 18 Juin dernier, débarqua à Port-Saïd du steamer Anglais 'Timor,' venant de Bombay et allant à Naples et Gênes, un chauffeur nommé Mohamed Khalifa, Égyptien (natif de la Haute-Égypte), qui partit immédiatement pour Damiette. J'adresse à votre Excellence la réponse reçue aujourd'hui du Gouverneur de Damiette à deux dépêches qui lui furent adressées, sur ma demande, au sujet de Mohamed Khalifa, par son Excellence le Gouverneur-Général du Canal. Bien que n'étant pas entièrement satisfaisantes pour expliquer le développement d'une épidémie de choléra Asiatique à Damiette, elles permettent cependant d'admettre le fait de l'importation du mal par Mohamed Khalifa.

"Peut-être des cas cholériques se sont-ils manifestés à bord du 'Timor' après son départ de Bombay? par conséquent, le nommé Khalifa se serait trouvé, à son arrivée à Port-Saïd, dans la période d'incubation de la maladie. N'est-il pas possible également que cet homme ait été atteint de diarrhée cholérique en arrivant à Damiette?

"Je me propose de continuer mes investigations des résultats desquelles je m'empresserai de faire part à votre Excellence.

"Veuillez, &c.
(Signé) "DR. FLOOD."

Inclosure 3 in No. 21.

Interrogatoire subi par Mohamed Khalifa, et adressé à son Excellence Hassan Pacha Mahmoud, Président du Conseil Sanitaire Maritime et Quarantenaire, par M. le Dr. Chaffey Bey.

MOHAMED KHALIFA, de la Moudirieh de Kena, âgé de 32 à 34 ans, a quitté depuis sept ans son pays; il a été employé au commencement à Port-Saïd, par la Compagnie du Canal, en qualité de chauffeur, et dernièrement il est parti à bord d'un bateau Anglais dont il ne connaît pas le nom, et y a rempli les fonctions de chauffeur pendant deux mois, à destination de Bombay. Le bateau a séjourné à Bombay pendant trois semaines; le dit Mohamed Khalifa ignore l'existence d'aucune maladie

à Bombay. Ensuite le dit bateau est parti de Bombay dans de bonnes conditions hygiéniques, chargé de marchandises, coton et riz, et n'avait aucun passager à l'exception de son équipage, dont tous étaient bien portants et que pendant la traversée personne n'a été malade. La traversée de Bombay à Port-Saïd a duré vingt jours. Mohamed Khalifa a quitté le dit bateau pour aller à sa maison, dans laquelle il est resté quatre jours; ensuite il s'est disputé avec un soldat cavalier du Gouvernement et a été arrêté et mis en prison pour trois jours, après lesquels ordre lui a été donné par son Excellence le Gouverneur de Port-Saïd de quitter la ville. Il est alors parti à bord d'un navire pour Damiette; la traversée de Port-Saïd a duré vingt heures. Il est arrivé à Damiette Dimanche matin, le 24 Juin, 1883; et en descendant en ville il s'est assis au café du nommé Salem-el-Sandoubi; s'étant soûlé il fut mis en prison pour quelques heures; il est resté à Damiette jusqu'au 1^{er} Juillet, 1883, jouissant d'une bonne santé.

Vers la fin de la journée du 1^{er} Juillet, 1883, il se sentit pris de vomissements et de diarrhée légers, lesquelles lui passèrent le deuxième jour.

Le Lundi, 9 Juillet, 1883, nous, Soussignés, déclarons avoir appelé le nommé Mohamed Khalifa, lequel est venu à pied jusqu'à l'Office Quarantenaire, et l'avons interrogé en présence de MM. le Médecin-en-chef de la localité, le Dr. Nedin, Inspecteur Sanitaire de la ville; son Excellence le Dr. Ahmed Bey Chaffey, Délégué du Conseil Sanitaire Maritime et Quarantenaire; Kosséry, adjoint de l'Office de Damiette, et Spiridiou Basbour, Notable de la ville; et certifions que l'interrogatoire ci-dessus détaillé a été fait devant nous.

(Suivent les signatures.)

N.B.—Le choléra a été annoncé officiellement comme ayant fait son apparition à Damiette le 22 Juin, 1883.

(Translation.)

Examination of Mohamed Khalifa, sent to his Excellency Dr. Hassan Pasha Mahmoud, President of the Maritime Sanitary and Quarantine Board, by Dr. Chaffey Bey.

MOHAMED KHALIFA, of the Mudirieh of Kena, age from 32 to 34, left his home seven years ago. He was first employed by the Canal Company as a stoker at Port Saïd, and he lately went to sea on an English vessel, of which he does not know the name, and acted as stoker for two months on a journey to Bombay. The vessel remained at Bombay three weeks. The said Mohamed Khalifa does not know that there was any illness at Bombay. The ship left Bombay, all well, with a cargo of cotton and rice, but with no passengers beyond the crew, who were all well; during the journey no one was ill. The passage from Bombay to Suez lasted twenty days. Mohamed left the vessel for his home, where he stayed four days. Then he had a dispute with a mounted soldier of the Government, was arrested, and put in prison for three days; after which, he was ordered by his Excellency the Governor of Port Saïd to leave that town. He then left by boat for Damietta; the passage from Port Saïd lasted twelve hours. He reached Damietta on the morning of Sunday, the 24th June, 1883, and on going into the town he sat down at the café belonging to Salem-el-Sandoubi; having got drunk, he was put in prison for a few hours. He stayed at Damietta till the 1st July, 1883, in perfect health.

Towards the latter part of the day, the 1st July, 1883, he felt himself seized by vomitings and slight diarrhoea, which left him the second day.

Monday, the 9th July, 1883, we, the Undersigned, declare that we called the said Mohamed Khalifa before us; he came on foot to the Quarantine Office, and we questioned him in the presence of the chief medical man of the place, Dr. Nedin, Sanitary Inspector of the town; his Excellency Dr. Ahmed Bey Chaffey, Delegate to the Maritime Sanitary and Quarantine Board; Kossery, Assistant at the Damietta Office; and Spiridiou Basbour, Notable of the town; and we certify that the above examination took place before us.

(Follow the signatures.)

N.B.—It has been officially announced that the cholera appeared at Damietta on the 22nd June, 1883.

No. 22.

Sir E. Malet to Earl Granville.—(Received July 25.)

My Lord,

Cairo, July 16, 1883.

I HAVE the honour to inclose a copy of a letter from Salem Pasha, President of the Cairo Board of Health, giving the names and distribution of the doctors, either European or bearing European diplomas, who are on service in the infected places.

I have, &c.

(Signed) EDWARD B. MALET

Inclosure in No. 22.

Dr. Salem to Sir E. Malet.

Mon cher Sir Edward,

Le Caire, le 15 Juillet, 1883.

JE m'empresse de satisfaire au désir que vous m'avez exprimé par votre billet de ce matin et de vous communiquer les noms des médecins Européens ou diplômés d'Europe, ce qui revient au même, au service dans les localités infectées :—

Mansourah.—Dr. Winkler, Médecin-en-chef; Dr. Inghilardi; Dr. Dutrieux Bey, au service du Conseil, envoyé par son Excellence Chérif Pacha; Dr. Sidki Bey, diplômé d'Europe, Inspecteur.

Damiette.—Dr. de Romano; Dr. Nadim, diplômé d'Europe; Dr. Ferrari, du Conseil Sanitaire Maritime Quarantenaire; Dr. Chaffey Bey, du Conseil Sanitaire Maritime Quarantenaire, diplômé d'Europe.

Port-Saïd.—Dr. Flood; Dr. Hasper.

Chibin-el-Com.—Dr. Ali Souchi, diplômé d'Europe; Dr. Mahmoud Moustafa, diplômé d'Europe.

Samanoud.—Dr. Soubki, diplômé d'Europe.

En dehors de ces médecins diplômés le Conseil possède dans toutes ces localités, et surtout à Damiette et Mansourah, des médecins capables et expérimentés, qui ont traversé plusieurs épidémies cholériques et sont par conséquent à même de prêter leurs soins avec avantage.

Le Conseil sait en outre qu'à Mansourah il y a cinq médecins civils Européens et qu'à Chibin-el-Com il y en a deux.

Veuillez, &c.

(Signé) DR. SALEM.

P.S.—Des cas ayant été signalés à Guizeh le Conseil y a envoyé en dehors du personnel normal, qui est composé pour la ville de Guizeh du médecin-en-chef de l'hôpital et du médecin du district, y a envoyé le Dr. Butta, médecin Européen, assisté de deux médecins indigènes.

DR. S.

(Translation.)

My dear Sir Edward,

Cairo, July 15, 1883.

I HASTEN to satisfy the wish expressed in your note of this morning by informing you of the names of the European doctors, or the doctors with European diplomas, which comes to the same, now serving in the infected places.

Mansourah.—Dr. Winkler, head medical man; Dr. Inghilardi; Dr. Dutrieux Bey, in the service of the Council, sent by his Excellency Chérif Pasha; Dr. Sidki Bey, who has a European diploma, Inspector.

Damietta.—Dr. de Romano; Dr. Nadim, who has a European diploma; Dr. Ferrari, of the Sanitary and Quarantine Board; Dr. Chaffey Bey, of the Maritime Sanitary and Quarantine Board, who has a European diploma.

Port Saïd.—Dr. Flood; Dr. Hasper.

Shibin-el-Com.—Dr. Ali Souchi and Dr. Mahmoud Moustapha, who have European diplomas.

Samanoud.—Dr. Soubki, who has a European diploma.

Besides these doctors with diplomas, the Council has at each of these places, particularly Damietta and Mansourah, able and experienced medical men, who have been through several choleraic epidemics, and are therefore fitted to do useful work.

The Council knows that there are besides five European civil medical men at Mansourah and two at Shibin-el-Com.

I have, &c.
(Signed) DR. SALEM.

P.S.—Cases having been notified at Gizeh, the Council has sent thither Dr. Butta, a European medical man, assisted by two native doctors, in addition to the usual staff which, for the town of Gizeh, consists of the head doctor of the hospital and the doctor of the district.

DR. S.

No. 23.

Dr. Mackie to Earl Granville.—(Received July 25.)

My Lord,

Alexandria, July 17, 1883.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith some observations on the epidemic prevailing in Egypt, and reports on the two first cases of cholera which occurred in this town.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. MACKIE.

Inclosure in No. 23.

Memorandum.

SINCE my last Report of the 9th instant, there has been a notable decrease in the mortality from cholera in the two villages which have suffered most severely—Damietta and Mansourah.

The virulence of the disease, however, seems to continue unmitigated, if I can rely on reports which reach me from intelligent correspondents. The Board of Health at Cairo can give no information, and I am obliged in consequence to glean my information from other sources. Reports have been sent to me from both Damietta and Mansourah of cases of death in from two to three hours, in which there had been neither vomiting nor diarrhoea. This seems to have occurred so often that many inhabitants of those villages don't believe it is cholera, but some new disease. I well remember in my own experience and practice here in the cholera of 1865 many such cases.

Though the number of victims in the villages first attacked has diminished and no very severe outbreak has shown itself in any of the other villages, yet from slight outbreaks occurring here and there, the disease shows a great tendency to spread. Up to the present the route it has taken is along the Damietta branch of the Nile southwards—in the direction of traffic and prevailing wind—the only deviations from this line of progress as yet being Port Saïd, Menzaleh, Chibin-el-Cum, and Alexandria, and at none of those places (except, perhaps, Menzaleh) have there been more than a few cases. If this steady though slow progress continues, it is likely to find its way along the Nile to Cairo. The cases which have occurred at such places as Chibin-el-Cum and Port Saïd may be accounted for by persons escaping from the infected villages, but I have no authentic information.

With regard to the first case which occurred in Alexandria, the circumstances are as follows:—A man left Mansourah on the 22nd June (cholera being officially declared there on the 25th), and the same day joined his family in Alexandria. His family, consisting of wife and daughter and another woman, lived in a wooden shanty, one of a number of wooden erections huddled together in a waste open space in a healthy well-aired part of the town, but the shanties having no sanitary arrangements whatever and densely crowded by washerwomen, ironing women, poor workpeople and their families.

Running parallel with these shanties and separated from them by a narrow lane is a row of badly kept offensive stables or mews. Part of this open space on which there was no building was covered by fœcal matter, being used by the families living in the tenements.

The woman who lived in the family was taken ill on the 1st July, and died next

day—the death being certified “very probably cholera.” The inhabitants of these huts were at once turned out and sent on the 4th July to Gabarri to perform quarantine, amongst them being the daughter of this man. On the 10th July she was taken ill at Gabarri with vomiting and diarrhoea, stated by the Sanitary authorities to be choleric, but in two days she was well. The man himself left for Syria a day or two after his arrival from Mansourah, and as far as is known is alive and well, having had no symptoms of diarrhoea nor cholera.

The second case was that of an Abyssinian (a servant) who lived at some distance from the house where the first case happened. He was taken to the native hospital where he died. I inclose the statement of the doctor, which contains all the information they can give.

The third and last case was the Austrian referred to in my last Report, who died last Sunday. He had been drinking in the evening, ate a hearty supper (chiefly sardines), went to bed, was taken ill about midnight, and died next day at 7 P.M., having had all the symptoms of cholera.

The statement with regard to Mohamed Khalifa, reported by the Sanitary physician of Port Saïd to have probably been the means of introducing the cholera from Bombay (a statement which was countenanced by the Cairo Board of Health), has been disproved. An inquiry was instituted at which the following facts were elicited. Mohamed Khalifa shipped on board an English steamer as fireman, went to Bombay with the vessel, remained there three weeks, and returned in the vessel to Port Saïd—all being in perfect health, nor had he heard cholera mentioned while at Bombay. The voyage from Bombay to Port Saïd lasted twenty days. He left the vessel at Port Saïd and went to his house where he remained four days. After this he was three days in prison for having engaged in a quarrel. He then left for Damietta, where, after a passage of twenty hours, he arrived by boat on Sunday morning the 25th June, and was there in perfect health on the 1st July. It is thus shown that he arrived in Damietta in perfect health two days after cholera was declared, having left a healthy ship.

A great many of the soldiers forming the *cordons sanitaires* have taken the disease, notwithstanding the care taken and stringent orders issued by the English officers. A letter from Colonel Sartorius of the 12th instant, states: “1 man, Damietta cordon, taken ill to-day; 1 officer and 11 non-commissioned officers, Mansourah cordon, taken ill to-day; Talka cordon, 1 soldier; 1 officer and 9 men, Samanoud cordon, taken ill to date and two men dead; Chibin-el-Cum cordon, 4 taken ill and 2 dead three days ago.” A paragraph (presumably authentic) in the “Egyptian Gazette” of the 14th instant, states that it was found necessary to change the position of the cordon at Samanoud. In doing so it was necessary to cross a native graveyard, where victims to the prevailing disease had recently been interred. During the one night that the sentinels remained in the cemetery, they caught the malady.

The disease has now been raging in Egypt for twenty-four days in as fatal a form as the cholera of 1865, judging from the published bulletins, and with the exception of the few cases at Port Saïd, most if not all of which the Sanitary physician declares occurred in refugees from Damietta, the route across Egypt from Asia to Europe has been free. The origin of the outbreak at Damietta remains as obscure as ever. The Sanitary Board of Cairo has now announced almost officially its belief that the disease has been imported from Bombay. Others also express the same belief, holding the opinion that cholera invariably spreads from India, while those who are not bound by opinion, and ask for investigation and proof, are inclined to find in the unsanitary state of the country where the disease first broke out sufficient to account for an outbreak without importation. If the substance or germ necessary for the production of cholera can be produced or evolved from decaying animal matter, a local origin can easily be found at Damietta. What constitutes cholera, even in India? The means by which it is propagated are now generally understood, but there must be a first beginning. What is it? If it has had its first beginning in unsanitary India, why not in unsanitary Damietta, with a river flowing through it, and supplying it with water, filled with rotting carcases of animals which have died of cattle plague, 400 of which, according to authentic information, have been fished out and buried since the disease appeared. The soil around is also the best that could be for the propagation of cholera, being loosely alluvial and fœcal, and the water often nearly stagnant from the inwash of the sea. Under such circumstances cholera could dwell and thrive; the question is—could it originate?

The study of this epidemic will be epidemiologically, commercially, and politically, of most intense interest, and the investigators will have to be independent men, free

from all political influence, if truth is to be arrived at. I am not aware that a case of cholera has occurred in Egypt since the winter of 1866. I have seen cases of choleraic diarrhoea, but none fatal. In the summer of 1881 I saw one case in a woman in this town which I thought would prove fatal, but she recovered.

The Egyptian Medical and Sanitary Administration has been showing great activity lately, and has sent doctors, medicines, and disinfectants to the infected villages; but sending one or two young medical men with disinfectants to disinfect an Egyptian village to stop cholera is like pouring a bucketful of water in the sea to float a stranded ship. To disinfect an Egyptian town means destroying and reconstructing it; it is impossible to cleanse and disinfect it; and, moreover, I will undertake to say that nine-tenths of the men sent to do the work do not themselves appreciate the meaning and use and method of disinfection. Sanitary habits and practice which will stop the progress of a zymotic disease are yet foreign to the country and to the nature of the people. Dr. Chaffey Bey reports from Damietta that the measures ordered are not carried out. Benevolent Societies have been formed, chiefly by Europeans, to send aid to the stricken villages, and have at their expense dispatched several European doctors who expressed their readiness to go. Many European doctors here, experienced in cholera and epidemics, would gladly go to help the authorities by their advice, but the difficulty of returning to their work here in case of need, without undergoing a lengthened quarantine, prevents them.

It would seem as if the *cordons sanitaires* have retarded the progress of the disease, and they may retard it till the country is supplied with good water by the rising of the Nile; but there are many reasons why the *cordons sanitaires* cannot stop its progress. When a case, for instance, happens in a village at some distance from an infected place, the people, or some of them, immediately take to flight, for fear of being shut in, and have escaped long before a cordon can be formed. Several cases have come before me where people have arrived here ill of fright from villages where, perhaps, during the night, some one had died suddenly, and they had fled, in terror, from supposed cholera and to escape the *cordon sanitaire*. To make it more effective it would be necessary to surround, not only the villages infected, but the whole district.

July 17.—Since writing the above the appearance of cholera in Cairo on Sunday the 15th has been officially announced, and I regret to add that another case has happened in Alexandria. An Englishwoman, aged about 60 or 65, of rather intemperate habits, living in a low-lying, unhealthy, densely-populated quarter of the town, was taken ill yesterday at 11 A.M. and died at 11 A.M. to-day. In this case, which I visited and treated, the symptoms of cholera were not very severe, though she presented a markedly choleraic appearance; the urine was not suppressed and was not albuminous. She kept a lodging-house, and I was informed that several refugees from the villages had lately lodged in her house, previously to leaving for Europe or Syria. Whether they came from villages where the disease actually existed or not, no one could tell me. The tendency of the disease to spread, notwithstanding *cordons sanitaires*, is very marked, and I am afraid there is now little hope of saving the country. It has now left the banks of the river and spread more in the direction of the chief line of railway.

The *cordons sanitaires* are on a severe trial, and the result will prove whether they have been of any real use. If they have proved to have been a failure it is to be hoped they have had their last trial here or elsewhere, as they are the cause of great panic and much hardship, which one would not desire to see inflicted if no good result is to be obtained.

Judging the rate of progress of this outbreak by that of 1865, when nothing was done, and the development and spread were so rapid that nothing could be done, it would seem as if the cordons have retarded the progress, but that they will stem the tide completely I have no hope. The fatal nature of the malady is still its marked feature, in that it resembles real Asiatic cholera.

(Signed) J. MACKIE,
Surgeon to Her Majesty's Consulate.

Alexandria, July 15, 1883.

No. 24.

Earl Granville to Sir E. Malet.

(Telegraphic.)

Foreign Office, July 25, 1883, 1 P.M.

ASK if medicines are required. If so, they could be taken out by doctors to-morrow.

No. 25.

Sir E. Malet to Earl Granville.—(Received July 25.)

(Telegraphic.)

Cairo, July 25, 1883, noon.

THE Khedive has this morning been to the hospitals and visited the cholera wards; he afterwards visited the Egyptian infantry, cavalry, and artillery, going round all the barracks and military hospitals, and has expressed to me his great satisfaction at the admirable arrangements made by Sir Evelyn Wood. He returns to Alexandria to-morrow.

No. 26.

*Earl Granville to Sir E. Malet.**

Sir,

Foreign Office, July 26, 1883.

I HAVE to request that you will consult Surgeon-Major Hunter with respect to the employment of hospital assistants from India for service in Egypt during the present cholera epidemic, and, if you have not already done so, with respect to other measures the adoption of which his Indian experience may suggest.

I have to request that you will press strongly on the immediate attention of the Egyptian Government whatever measures he may advise.

I have conveyed to you, by telegraph, the substance of this instruction in reply to your telegram stating that the Egyptian Government decline the offer of hospital assistants from India.

I am, &c.

(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 27.

Sir E. Malet to Earl Granville.—(Received July 25.)

(Telegraphic.)

Cairo, July 25, 1883.

EGYPTIAN Government thank sincerely for offer hospital attendants from India, but will not require them.†

No. 28.

Earl Granville to Sir E. Malet.

(Telegraphic.)

Foreign Office, July 26, 1883, 4.30 P.M.

WITH reference to my telegram of the 24th instant, the remaining ten doctors leave for Alexandria, viâ Brindisi, this evening. They are: Doctors MacNalty, Thrupp, Wyborn, Porter, Crookshank, Leslie, Wilkins, Cantlie, and Honman. They should be met by one of the Consular Staff.

No. 29.

Sir E. Malet to Earl Granville.—(Received by telegraph, July 26.)

(Extract.)

Cairo, July 26, 1883.

IN reply to allegations made in certain newspapers respecting the Prefect of Police of Cairo, I have the honour to report that Osman Pasha Ghaleb is Governor of the town as well as Prefect of Police.

* Substance telegraphed July 25.

† No. 15.

There is much conflict of opinion with regard to this high official, and I think those who blame him for everything that goes wrong in the present emergency are somewhat hasty in their judgment.

I have, however, obtained the Khedive's permission to allow Colonel Chermiside to be temporarily attached to the Prefect. Both His Highness and I have great confidence in that officer, and I trust that his knowledge of Turkish and Arabic may go far to obviate misunderstandings, which I am inclined to think are in some measure due to the communications between the English police officer and the Prefect passing through an interpreter.

No. 30.

Earl Granville to Sir E. Malet.

(Telegraphic.)

Foreign Office, July 27, 1883, 5 P.M.

IF the Egyptian Government requires doctors to be engaged here, it would be well that they should be asked for as soon as possible.

Should hospital assistants be sent from India?

No. 31.

Earl Granville to Sir E. Malet.

(Telegraphic.)

Foreign Office, July 30, 1883, 2.45 P.M.

WE can, if necessary, send more doctors on Thursday. Please answer if they are required.

Has any further decision been come to about Indian assistants?

No. 32.

Sir E. Malet to Earl Granville.—(Received by telegraph, July 30.)

My Lord,

Cairo, July 30, 1883.

WITH reference to your Lordship's telegram of the 27th instant, I have the honour to inform your Lordship that the Sanitary Board, at its meeting held this afternoon, has decided to accept the offer of the forty Indian hospital assistants, to be accompanied by a sanitary officer, as well as to ask for eight more doctors. The Board, however, desires that they should come from India.

The above resolution has not yet been ratified by the Council of Ministers, but it probably will be to-night.

I have, &c.

(Signed) EDWARD B. MALET.

No. 33.

Earl Granville to Sir E. Malet.

(Extract.)

Foreign Office, July 30, 1883.

I HAVE to request that you will inquire and report as to the tax which is said to be levied on the carcases of animals interred, and which it is intimated may have been the cause of the condition of the neighbourhood of Damietta that led to the outbreak of cholera. This tax is stated to have been imposed in the time of the Khedive Ismail, but to have been subsequently repealed. It will, however, be necessary to inquire not merely whether the tax has been so repealed, but also whether the local authorities may not have continued to levy it notwithstanding the repeal.

Sir E. Malet to Earl Granville.—(Received July 30.)

(Extract.)

Cairo, July 17, 1883.

I HAVE the honour to inclose a Report addressed by Salem Pasha, President of the Board of Health, to the Khedive, respecting the cholera, and to draw your Lordship's attention to the concluding paragraphs, in which his Excellency reiterates the opinion that the disease is Asiatic cholera, and that it is imported.

It is somewhat unfortunate that the President should thus early commit himself to an opinion on a subject requiring so much investigation.

Inclosure in No. 34.

Extract from the "Moniteur Égyptien" of July 9, 1883.

SON Excellence Salem Pacha, Président du Conseil de Santé et d'Hygiène Publique, a adressé à Son Altesse le Khédive le Rapport suivant, sur les mesures prises par le Conseil de Santé et d'Hygiène Publique, en vue d'empêcher l'extension du choléra et de l'étouffer dans les foyers où il a été importé :—

1. Dès l'annonce de l'apparition d'une maladie suspecte de choléra à Damiette, 23 Juin, le Président du Conseil de Santé et d'Hygiène Publique y faisait envoyer les Médecins-en-chef des Provinces Garbieli et Dakahlieh pour s'assurer de la nature de la maladie et prendre les mesures opportunes, il pria ensuite le Ministère de l'Intérieur par dépêche de faire suspendre les communications et organiser un cordon.

2. Le Ministère de l'Intérieur de son côté envoyait dès le 24 Juin une Commission composée de MM. les Drs. Dacarogna Bey, Ahmet Bey Hamdi, Grant Bey, et Abdel Rahman Bey Herraoui, chargée d'étudier la maladie. Cette Commission s'unit à Damiette à celle envoyée par le Conseil Sanitaire Maritime et Quarantenaire et rédigea ensemble un Rapport. Mais avant de quitter Damiette elle eut soin de prescrire des mesures d'isolement, de désinfection, &c., et d'adresser des recommandations dans l'intérêt public.

La Commission retourna au Caire, et le jour même de nouveaux ordres furent donnés pour l'interruption de communications avec Damiette et l'organisation d'un cordon. Peu d'heures après, le Médecin-en-chef de la Dakahlieh annonçait la constatation de deux cas de choléra à Mansourah et des mesures d'urgence furent prises. La maladie a, depuis, pris de plus grandes proportions à Damiette et Mansourah, et s'est manifestée à Port-Saïd, Samanoud, et Cherbine : un cas sporadique a été constaté à Tantah, et un autre à Alexandrie ; dans toutes ces dernières localités, les premières personnes atteintes provenaient de Damiette.

Le Conseil de Santé et d'Hygiène Publique, d'accord avec son Excellence le Ministre de l'Intérieur, dont le concours constant et précieux assurait l'exécution de ses décisions, forma autour de toutes les localités atteintes un cordon bien organisé de troupes, sous le commandement d'officiers supérieurs et la surveillance des Inspecteurs—Dr. de Romano pour Damiette, Dr. Mahmoud Sidki pour Mansourah—et envoya dans chacune de ces localités un personnel médical et pharmaceutique nombreux et capable, des médicaments et désinfectants en grand quantité.

Des mesures d'hygiène et de salubrité ont été ordonnées et exécutées non seulement dans les villes atteintes mais dans toute l'Égypte et principalement au Caire et à Alexandrie.

Ces mesures consistent :—

Dans la surveillance des marchés, abattoirs et lieux publics ; l'interdiction de la vente du poisson appelé "fissihs," la saisie du poisson frais, des légumes, fruits, et de toutes les substances livrées à la consommation qui seraient trouvées gâtées ou altérées.

La défense de transporter le "fissih," les peaux fraîches ou non tannées, les os et chiffons qui devront être enfermés dans des magasins spéciaux. Surveiller les canaux, fleuves, empêcher qu'on y jette des animaux morts, retirer et faire enfouir ceux qui s'y trouvent. Un service d'inspection sur le fleuve et les canaux a été organisé et confié à Mr. Goodall.

Désinfection des latrines des Mosquées, casernes, prisons, écoles, et autres établissements publics ; les conduits des Mosquées devront être désinfectés et murés.

Désinfecter les maisons où il y a eu des malades atteints de choléra, brûler les hardes et effets ayant appartenu aux morts.

Organiser des services de désinfection pour la correspondance provenant de Damiette, Mansourah, Port-Saïd.

Installer des hôpitaux pour les cholériques à Damiette, Mansourah, et Port-Saïd, en préparer un au Caire pouvant contenir 200 malades pour toutes éventualités.

Faire boucher les conduits des maisons et des égouts se jetant dans le Halig qui a été désinfecté en y jetant la chaux vive sur tout son parcours et principalement dans les endroits où il y a des eaux stagnantes.

Pour Damiette, il a été ordonné de disperser la population des quartiers contaminés hors de la ville et dans l'enceinte du cordon sanitaire établi.

Des tentes, des gourbis en nattes, et des baraques en bois, ont été dressées pour recevoir les habitants; leurs habitations seront scrupuleusement désinfectées, des masures démolies et détruites; les hardes et vêtements des cholériques morts seront brûlés.

La Commission Sanitaire permanente à laquelle prennent part son Excellence le Ministre de l'Intérieur, le Préfet de Police, le Commandant-en-chef de la Gendarmerie, et le Sous-Ministre des Travaux Publics ordonne et fait exécuter d'urgence toutes les mesures qui sont adoptées et propres à améliorer ou assurer la salubrité publique.

Toutes ces mesures ont arrêté la marche de la maladie qui dans l'épidémie de 1865 avait en peu de jours envahi toute l'Égypte, tandis que cette fois il y a déjà quatorze jours qu'elle a fait son apparition et elle est restée circonscrite à quelques localités.

Cette maladie est bien le choléra Asiatique, ainsi que l'a constaté la Commission envoyée à Damiette et le Rapport adressé par le Médecin Sanitaire de Port-Saïd démontre que les symptômes sont bien caractéristiques et bien ceux du choléra Asiatique.

Or, la Conférence Internationale de Constantinople a considéré comme démontré que le choléra Asiatique envahissant ne s'est jamais développé spontanément et n'a jamais été observé à l'état endémique en Europe et en Égypte, et qu'il est toujours venu du dehors, même au Hedjaz où le choléra se développe souvent.

La Conférence retient qu'il ne paraît pas y avoir un foyer originel mais qu'il semble y avoir été jusque là toujours importé du dehors.

Ces conclusions viennent confirmer l'opinion du Conseil de Santé que le choléra a dû être importé du dehors et des recherches sont faites pour arriver à découvrir son origine à Damiette, et il espère qu'elles aboutiront à un bon résultat.

No. 35.

Sir E. Malet to Earl Granville.—(Received by telegraph, July 31.)

My Lord,

Cairo, July 31, 1883.

I HAVE the honour to inclose copies of the letter I received from the Minister of the Interior, and of the telegram I dispatched to the Viceroy of India, respecting the doctors and hospital assistants whose service are required in Egypt.

I have, &c.

(Signed) EDWARD B. MALET.

Inclosure 1 in No. 35.

Khairy Pasha to Sir E. Malet.

Mon cher Ministre,

Ministère de l'Intérieur, le 30 Juillet, 1883.

LE Conseil de Santé auquel je me suis empressé de communiquer votre lettre datée du 28 courant, m'informe par sa lettre d'aujourd'hui qu'il a décidé de demander au Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Britannique l'envoi de huit autres médecins en dehors des douze qui vont arriver.

Le Conseil désirerait que ces huit médecins soient envoyés des Indes et non de l'Angleterre, afin qu'ils puissent donner une direction aux quarante hospitaliers offerts par le Gouvernement des Indes, et ce dans l'intérêt du service par suite de leur pratique du traitement donné aux cholériques.

Quant aux assistants hospitaliers, et non aux infirmiers, ainsi que les appelle votre Excellence, le Conseil de Santé prenant en considération les observations verbales du Chirurgien-Général Dr. Hunter sur leurs qualités, accepte le concours des quarante offerts par le Gouvernement des Indes à titre provisoire, ainsi que celui du chirurgien proposé.

Le Conseil de Santé désire toutefois que ces assistants hospitaliers soient Musulmans et connaissent, si possible, l'Arabe.

Veuillez, &c.
(Signé) KHAÏRY.

(Translation.)

My dear Minister,

Ministry of the Interior, July 30, 1883.

THE Board of Health, to whom I hastened to communicate your letter of the 28th instant, informed me, under to-day's date, that they have decided to ask Her Britannic Majesty's Government for eight other doctors beyond those who are now to come.

The Board wish these eight doctors sent from India and not from England, so that they may be able to direct the forty hospital assistants offered by the Government of India, and also in the interests of the service, on account of their practical knowledge of the treatment required by cholera patients.

As to the hospital assistants, and not the nurses as your Excellency calls them, the Board of Health, considering what Surgeon-General Hunter has said verbally as to their capabilities, accepts the assistance of forty offered by the Government of India, provisionally, as also that of the proposed surgeon.

The Board desires, however, that these hospital assistants should be Moslems, and, if possible, men knowing Arabic.

I have, &c.
(Signed) KHAÏRY.

Inclosure 2 in No. 35.

Sir E. Malet to the Viceroy of India.

(Telegraphic.)

Cairo, July 31, 1883, 9 A.M.

EGYPTIAN Government now asks for the forty hospital assistants previously offered. Following requirements are specified by Dr. Hunter:—

They should be Mussulmans and have passed in English, should be of each class, proportionally of third class; caution that only those fitted for the work be sent, as failure would be disastrous. Being required chiefly for sanitary work, as many as possible should come from Sanitary Department. They should bring—

1. Specimens of all forms, civil, sanitary, and military.
2. Copy of medical code.
3. Field medical companion, one each, contents complete.
4. Each to be supplied with copy of small book on sanitary work, published by Indian Government.

The medical officers in charge should be selected from among Deputy Sanitary Commissioners, and be of not less than eight to ten years' service. The Egyptian Government also requests that seven other medical men be sent from India. It is desirable that they should have a knowledge of sanitary administration. Terms offered, 300*l.* for three months, travelling expenses and lodging.

No. 36.

Earl Granville to Sir E. Malet.

Sir,

Foreign Office, July 31, 1883.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch of the 17th instant, and to state that I shall be glad to receive any further Report by Salem Pasha as to the origin of the outbreak of cholera in Egypt.*

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 37.

Sir E. Malet to Earl Granville.—(Received August 1.)

My Lord,

Cairo, July 18, 1883.

WITH reference to my despatch of this day's date,* I have the honour to inclose copies of a correspondence which has taken place between Dr. Salem Pasha, the President of the Board of Health, and Dr. Grant, Chérif Pasha, and me] on the subject of asking Her Majesty's Government to lend medical assistance during the present epidemic of cholera.

I have, &c.
(Signed) EDWARD B. MALET.

Inclosure 1 in No. 37.

Dr. Salem to Dr. Grant Bey.

M. le Docteur,

Caire, le 17 Juillet, 1883.

EN réponse à la communication que vous avez bien voulu me faire, j'ai l'honneur de vous informer que le Conseil de Santé et d'Hygiène Publique a été très sensible à l'intérêt que prend le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Britannique au pays et l'offre de Sir Edward Malet de faire venir d'Angleterre douze médecins pour aider le Corps Médical Sanitaire dans les circonstances actuelles.

Je crois pourtant devoir vous faire observer que la maladie ayant déjà pris une grande extension, il a été décidé de lever les cordons et le Conseil de Santé pourra ainsi utiliser dans d'autres localités les nombreux médecins qui y sont enfermés. Le Gouvernement ayant en outre autorisé le Conseil à engager les médecins civils exerçant dans le pays, l'Administration a déjà commencé à profiter de cette autorisation, et je crois que nous pourrions pour le moment suffire aux besoins du service.

Le Conseil de Santé accepte toutefois avec reconnaissance l'offre généreuse qui lui est faite et sollicite le pouvoir, en attendant l'arrivée de ces médecins et vu la marche rapide de la maladie, de s'adjoindre le concours des médecins de l'Armée d'Occupation, si le besoin venait à s'en faire sentir.

Veillez, &c.
(Signé) DR. SALEM.

(Translation.)

Sir,

Cairo, July 17, 1883.

IN reply to your communication, I have the honour to inform you that the Public Health and Sanitary Council fully appreciates the interest which the Government of Her Britannic Majesty take in the country, and Sir Edward Malet's offer of twelve doctors to be sent from England to aid the Medical Sanitary Body.

I should, however, point out that, the disease having extended greatly, it has been decided to withdraw the cordons, and that the Sanitary Council will thus be able to utilize in other places the doctors who are now shut in by them. Besides the Government having authorized the Council to engage the civil doctors practising in the country, the Administration has already commenced taking advantage of this permission, and I think that for the moment we shall be able to meet the requirements of the service.

The Sanitary Council, however, accepts gratefully the generous offer, and begs that until the doctors arrive, and in view of the rapid spread of the disease, it may be authorized to obtain the assistance of the doctors of the Army of Occupation if it should be found necessary.

I have, &c.
(Signed) DR. SALEM.

Inclosure 2 in No. 37.

Sir E. Malet to Chérif Pasha.

(Télégraphique.)

Caire, le 18 Juillet, 1883.

LE Président du Conseil de Santé me prévient qu'il serait reconnaissant d'avoir les services de douze médecins Anglais si le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté voudrait les envoyer, et en attendant leur arrivée il sollicite le concours des médecins de l'Armée d'Occupation si le besoin venait à s'en faire sentir. Est-ce que votre Excellence m'autorise à faire cette demande auprès de mon Gouvernement? Je ne puis que la recommander à votre accueil favorable.

(Translation.)

(Telegraphic.)

Cairo, July 18, 1883.

THE President of the Sanitary Council informs me that he would be glad to have the services of twelve English doctors if Her Majesty's Government would send them, and pending their arrival he asks for the assistance of the doctors of the Army of Occupation, if it should be found necessary. Does your Excellency authorize me to make this request to my Government? I can only recommend it to your favourable consideration.

Inclosure 3 in No. 37.

Chérif Pasha to Sir E. Malet.

(Télégraphique.)

Alexandrie, le 18 Juillet, 1883.

DU moment que le Chef de notre Service Sanitaire déclare que le nombre des médecins dont nous disposons est insuffisant, je vous serai obligé d'obtenir du Gouvernement de Sa Majesté l'envoi de douze médecins.

(Translation.)

(Telegraphic.)

Alexandria, July 18, 1883.

AS the Head of our Sanitary Service declares that the number of doctors whom we have available is insufficient, I should be obliged if you would move Her Majesty's Government to send twelve doctors.

No. 38.

Sir E. Malet to Earl Granville.—(Received August 1.)

My Lord,

Cairo, July 22, 1883.

I HAVE the honour to inclose copies of Reports from Mr. Murdoch, Acting British Consular Agent at Mansourah, relative to the cholera epidemic.

I have, &c.

(Signed) EDWARD B. MALET.

Inclosure 1 in No. 38.

Mr. Murdoch to Vice-Consul Borg.

Sir,

Mansourah, July 18, 1883.

I BEG to inclose list of cases and deaths to date, from which you will observe that the death-rate is considerably reduced, although the great reduction on the night of the 15th to eight gave rise to hopes that have not unfortunately been realized.

Hassan Effendi, the hospital doctor, died yesterday, and an examination of his room proved it to be in a very filthy state, with a quantity of cucumbers, Arab pickles, and dried fish lying about, showing that he had been very indiscreet in his food.

From a Report Dr. Spitzky has made to the Relief Committee I learn that only one of the tombs in the new cemetery is made of the regulation depth of 1½ metres; all the others are only 1 metre, and some only 50 centim. to 60 centim., and no earth

or quicklime was used ; and the brickwork being quite new, fissures occur as it dries, the result being a stench even worse than the old cemetery, if that were possible.

I will represent the matter to the authorities to-morrow, and endeavour to get it remedied.

I am told the hospital is in a bad state ; that there is no cook to make food for the patients and no beds, and a want of medicines. My informant had visited the hospital to-day.

I am, &c.
(Signed) FREDERICK J. MURDOCH.

Inclosure 2 in No. 38.

RETURN of Cases and Deaths from Cholera in the Town of Mansourah, from the 11th July to the 17th July, 1883.

Date.	Temperature. Fahr. Ther.		Direction of Wind at 4 P.M.	Number of New Cases.				Number of Deaths.				Remarks.
	9 A.M.	4 P.M.		Europeans.		Natives.		Europeans.		Natives.		
				Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	
July 11, 1883	83	92	W., light breeze	1	49	40	Three were sudden deaths. Middle and south-western quarters. Sky hazy-like. Khamseen. No wind till sun- set. Middle and south-west quarters. Mit Iladr none.
" 12, "	82	92	Ditto	...	...	...	...	...	...	44	34
" 13, "	81	94	N.W., light breeze	...	...	3	3	1	2	23	33
" 14, "	82	94	No wind	1	1	4	...	...	...	25	32
" 15, "	84	96	N.W., light breeze	...	...	15	8	...	4	30	27
" 16, "	84	97	Ditto	...	...	9	5	1	2	17	18
" 17, "	86	95	Ditto	1	...	...	...	1	1	20	21
								5	10	208	205	
Natives				413	
Europeans				15	
Total				428	

(Signed) FREDERICK J. MURDOCH,
Acting Consular Agent.

Inclosure 3 in No. 38.

Mr. Murdoch to Vice-Consul Borg.

(Extract.)

Mansourah, July 20, 1883.

REGARDING the tents, I am sorry to say that they are not appreciated as I was led to believe they would be. When a death occurs in a house the parties living in it are all sent to live in the tents until the house is properly disinfected and fumigated, and if they have means of subsistence they are allowed to return to their house, if not they must remain in the tent.

The tents were also to be used by those who have no friends or houses here. These objects have all been frustrated for want of soldiers to prevent those in the tents communicating with the town and *vice versa*.

I have communicated with the authorities on the subject, who admit their inability to prevent the communication, and they have placed watchmen on to form a sort of cordon, but they do not hold out much hope of its being successful and they ask for some soldiers.

I understand an order has been received from Salem Pasha to the effect that all interments must take place in the new cemetery.

A most disgraceful occurrence took place at the new cemetery on Wednesday last. It appears that the servant of Hassan Effendi (a Barbary) died the same day as his master, and when the two bodies were brought to the cemetery it was found that the tomb intended for the doctor was not quite finished, and the parties who brought the bodies put them both into a newly-finished one belonging to Sheikh Ibrahim Abou Hegazi and built or sealed up the entrance. Shortly afterwards Hegazi, becoming aware of what had been done, immediately destroyed the tomb and

pulled the bodies out, leaving them on the ground until they were taken by some people who had witnessed the scene and buried in another tomb. I have requested the authorities to inquire into the matter, and if the accusation against Hegazi is well founded to award him severe punishment as an example to others.

As an instance of the worthlessness of the cordon as a means of preventing communication I beg to draw your attention to the following:—

Yesterday afternoon a number of Arabs were sitting in a field about half way between the town and the cordon, and I received notice that they had a considerable quantity of goods with them, and were waiting till after sunset to pass through the cordon. I sent my clerk to examine the goods and, if possible, ascertain where they were going.

He was told they were going to Mehallet Damane, and the goods consisted of one box containing two tins petroleum, a quantity of calico, oil, &c., and four persons were to pass through, although there were six at that place. They passed through without difficulty.

The death-rate is gradually decreasing : twenty-five natives and two Europeans in twenty-four hours.

No. 39.

Sir E. Malet to Earl Granville.—(Received August 1.)

My Lord,

Cairo, July 22, 1883.

I HAVE made a fresh representation to the Minister of the Interior respecting the burials of cholera victims in Cairo, and I have the honour to inclose copy of his Excellency's reply on the subject.

I have, &c.
(Signed) EDWARD B. MALET.

Inclosure in No. 39.

Khaïry Pasha to Sir E. Malet.

Mon cher Ministre,

Caire, le 21 Juillet, 1883.

EN réponse à la lettre que vous avez bien voulu m'adresser au sujet des nouvelles qui sont données par les journaux, je m'empresse de vous communiquer les renseignements suivants, qui m'ont été fournis par le Conseil de Santé et d'Hygiène Publique.

Les vêtements des personnes qui meurent dans les hôpitaux et dans leurs habitations sont immédiatement détruits.

Quant aux enterrements et au transport des morts, ils se font selon les usages religieux du pays; c'est-à-dire, le mort subi trois lavages, au moins, à l'eau chaude savonneuse, le corps est enveloppé dans un cercueil neuf contenant du camphre en poudre, et des matières aromatiques, et cela d'accord avec les préceptes religieux du pays.

Le transport des cadavres se fait comme à l'ordinaire dans des cercueils en bois qui sont soigneusement désinfectés après l'inhumation.

(Signé) KHAÏRY.

(Translation.)

My dear Minister,

Cairo, July 21, 1883.

IN reply to your letter about the news published in the papers, I hasten to give you the information furnished to me by the Public Health and Sanitary Board.

The clothes of those who die in the hospitals and in their own homes are immediately destroyed.

As to the burial and carriage of the dead, these matters are conducted in accordance with the religious customs of the country; that is, the dead body is washed three times, at least, in warm soap and water, and is wrapped in a new winding-sheet, with powdered camphor and aromatic substances, as laid down in the religious prescriptions of the country.

Bodies are carried, as usual, in wooden coffins, which are carefully disinfected after the interment.

(Signed) KHAÏRY.

No. 40.

Earl Granville to Sir E. Malet.

(Telegraphic.)

Foreign Office, August 1, 1883, 2.5 P.M.

WHAT is law as to burial of cattle? Is there still a tax, or has it been repealed?

No. 41.

Sir E. Malet to Earl Granville.—(Received August 1.)

(Telegraphic.)

Cairo, August 1, 1883, 5.45 P.M.

YOUR telegram of to-day.

The tax on the burial of cattle was repealed more than two years ago by Riaz Pasha.

When, at the beginning of the epidemic, it was asserted that the casting of the dead cattle into the canals was owing to this tax, a Circular was issued warning the local authorities against levying it.

No. 42.

Consul Cookson to Earl Granville.—(Received August 2.)

My Lord,

Alexandria, July 22, 1883.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship herewith a despatch addressed to me by Mr. Miéville, inclosing a preliminary Report from two Sanitary Doctors at Damietta on the course of the cholera epidemic at that place.

I have, &c.

(Signed) CHAS. A. COOKSON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 42.

Consul Miéville to Consul Cookson.

Sir,

Alexandria, July 22, 1883.

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith copy of a preliminary Report on the outbreak of cholera at Damietta, addressed to the President of the Maritime and Quarantine Sanitary Board by Dr. Ferrari, the Director of the Sanitary Office at Damietta, and Dr. Chaffey Bey, the special Delegate sent by the Board to study the disease and endeavour to trace its origin.

Both these gentlemen have had a large experience of cholera both in the pilgrim encampments in the Red Sea and at the Holy Places of the Hedjaz, and confidence may be placed in their observations.

It is hoped that the full Report from Drs. Chaffey Bey and Ferrari will soon be forthcoming, and I shall, Sir, when it arrives, endeavour to obtain an early copy for transmission to you.

I have, &c.

(Signed) W. F. MIÉVILLE, *British Delegate.*

Inclosure 2 in No. 42.

Dr. Ferrari and Dr. Chaffey to Dr. Hassan.

Excellence,

Esbeh, le 12 Juillet, 1883.

NOUS avons l'honneur de vous accuser réception de votre lettre du 15 Juillet courant, par laquelle vous nous demandez de vous envoyer, deux fois par semaine, un

[1523]

H

Rapport collectif sur la marche, les caractères de la maladie, ainsi que toutes les observations que nous pourrions faire.

En réponse nous avons l'honneur de vous informer que l'épidémie du choléra qui a sévi à Damiette depuis le 22 Juin avait suivi une marche ascendante jusqu'au 1^{er} Juillet, jour où elle a atteint le point le plus culminant, comme vous aviez dû l'apercevoir par les bulletins journaliers qui vous sont envoyés régulièrement, ainsi que par les états qui vous ont été adressés jusqu'au 10 courant.

Dans sa marche ascendante, la maladie a présenté des caractères franchement épidémiques, attaquant les personnes sans distinction ni d'âge, ni de sexe, ni de race ; toutefois sans avoir atteint jusqu'ici aucun Européen, foudroyant parfois les attequés, mais en guérissant aussi quelquefois sans aucune médication, souvent guérissant par le moindre soin, et très souvent résistant à tout traitement.

Dans ses attaques, la diarrhée est le symptôme prédominant dans le tableau cholérique ; les vomissements s'y associent sans persistance ; les phénomènes algides ne sont pas intenses ; les crampes aussi s'observent moins souvent.

Mais depuis le 1^{er} Juillet la maladie, après être restée quelques jours à l'état stationnaire, a suivi sa course descendante ; c'est alors que les cas sont devenus plus benins, moins foudroyants, cédant plus souvent au traitement. Mais la période de réparation a présenté alors les caractères incomplets et irréguliers, et nous avons observé le passage à l'état typhoïde.

A cette date l'épidémie est en décroissance très sensible, comme vous le prouve toujours le bulletin de la mortalité, que nous avons expédié hier au soir à votre Excellence. Les attaques sont devenues rares dans la ville, mais il s'en fait encore dans les environs.

Dans la courbe que la maladie a suivie il nous est impossible, et à qui que ce soit hors de nous, de savoir et de dire quel était le nombre des attaques par rapport au chiffre de la mortalité journalière.

L'épidémie dans sa marche a présenté plusieurs oscillations plus ou moins sensibles en augmentation ou diminution. Nous avons remarqué que les journées calmes et chaudes favorisaient sa marche, tandis que les journées fraîches et ventileuses étaient toujours suivies d'une diminution de mortalité. Mais la chose la plus digne de remarque c'est, comme vous le verrez dans notre Rapport général traitant des causes de la naissance de l'épidémie, la coïncidence mathématique, et presque miraculeuse, de l'abaissement rapide de l'épidémie avec l'arrivée des eaux premières de la crue du Nil à Damiette.

Quant au fait de l'individu mort en deux heures la semaine dernière, sans avoir eu ni diarrhée ni vomissement, la mort a eu lieu au milieu d'un accès convulsif, et le médecin en a posé la diagnostique "éclampsie," comme vous en avez été informé dans une dernière correspondance.

Quant aux mesures qui ont été jusqu'ici prises, nous nous voyons obligés de vous répéter qu'elles ne consistent, jusqu'à présent, qu'en la présence de quatre médecins, un pharmacien, et une sage-femme, qui est arrivée avant-hier seulement.

Le service de salubrité de la ville n'a jamais été organisé, car, en dehors d'un service fictive de balayage et d'arrosage dans quelques points principaux de la ville, il existe actuellement des grands enclos en ruine, comblés de grands monceaux d'immondices. C'est avec beaucoup de peine que nous avons obtenu de tapisser les rues de la ville avec du sable sec ; les quartiers populeux et populaciers de la ville n'ont jamais été évacués.

On nous avait un peu écoutés pour clouer les latrines des mosquées et des bains publics, après avoir bien été désinfectées ; mais cette mesure a été prise pour quelques-unes seulement, tandis que, actuellement, nous voyons exister, non seulement de grands égouts déversant la rivière, mais aussi l'on constate l'existence de puits pleins de matières fécales. Ce grand dépôt est habituellement curé par des machines élévatoires ("sakié") pareilles à celles dont on se sert à la campagne pour arroser les champs.

Les enterrements continuent à se faire dans les cimetières sises au centre de la ville.

Enfin, malgré cet état de choses, nous constatons, grâce à Dieu, que l'épidémie paraît toucher à sa fin à Damiette.

Le présent Rapport n'est, du reste, qu'un extrait du Rapport général que nous sommes en train de rédiger relativement à la naissance de la maladie, et qui forme le véritable objet de notre mission à Damiette.

Quant aux renseignements que votre Excellence nous demande sur l'état sanitaire des bestiaux à Damiette et ses environs, nous croyons que le typhus bovin continue à régner toujours dans ces localités, attendu que M. le Dr. Ferrari a constaté *de visu*, en

dehors de deux carcasses que l'on venait de jeter à la rivière, un bœuf encore moribond.

Nous nous permettons de prier votre Execllence de nous faire savoir si c'est eet ensemble de renseignements que vous désirez que nous vous envoyons deux fois par semaine, en quel cas nous nous empressons d'en rédiger d'autres.

En attendant, &c.

Le Directeur,

(Signé) DR. G. FERRARI.

Le Délégué du Conseil à Damiette,

(Signé) DR. A. CHAFFEY.

(Translation.)

Execlleney,

Esbeh, July 12, 1883.

WE have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 15th July, asking us to send you twice a-week a general Report on the progress and the character of the disease, as well as any observations we might have to make.

In reply, we have the honour to inform you that the cholera epidemic, which has raged at Damietta since the 22nd June, increased until the 1st July, when it reached its highest point, as you will have seen from the daily bulletins which are regularly sent to you, as well as from the Tables which have been sent to you for the period ended the 10th instant.

As it increased, the disease was markedly epidemic, attacking all, without distinction of age, sex, or race; it has not, however, as yet, attacked any European; it sometimes kills almost instantaneously; at others, the sufferer recovers without the aid of any medical treatment, often with the least care; but very often the disease resists all remedies.

Diarrhœa is the predominating symptom with persons attacked by the cholera; vomiting is also noticed, but it is not persistent; the phenomenon of algidity is not very marked; cramps also are less often to be noticed than is usually the case.

But since the 1st July the disease decreased, after remaining some days stationary; cases thenceforward became milder, were less sudden, and yielded oftener to treatment. But recovery then became incomplete and irregular, and we noticed cases which passed into the typhoid stage.

The epidemic is now sensibly diminishing, as shown by the record of deaths sent to your Execlleney yesterday evening. Attacks are now rare in the town, but still occur in the neighbourhood.

In tracing the course pursued by the disease, it is impossible for us and for anybody else to know and to say in what proportion the number of attacks stands to the number of deaths per diem.

The epidemic has shown during its course several more or less sensible undulations of augmentation and diminution. We noticed that calm hot days increased its virulence, while the mortality fell after fresh windy weather. But the fact most worthy of remark is, as you will see in our general Report on the causes of the outbreak of the epidemic, the mathematically precise and almost miraculous coincidence of the rapid fall of the epidemic with the arrival at Damietta of the first waters of the rising Nile.

With regard to the individual who died in two hours last week without either diarrhœa or vomiting, death took place during a convulsive fit; and the doctor states the cause to be "eclampsis," as you were informed in recent correspondence.

As to the measures as yet taken, we are obliged to repeat that they do not go beyond the presence of four doctors, one chemist, and one midwife, who did not arrive till the day before yesterday.

The sanitary service of the town has never been organized, for although there is a perfunctory sweeping and watering in the few principal parts of the town, there are still large inclosures of ruins, filled with great heaps of refuse. We had great difficulty in getting dry sand spread over the streets of the town; the populous and poor parts of the town have never been evacuated.

We were listened to so far as inducing the people to nail up the latrines of the mosques and public baths after disinfecting them, but this was done at a few only, whilst at the present moment, not only do we see large sewers emptying themselves into the river, but actually find wells which are full of fecal matter. These receptacles are emptied by elevators ("sakieh") similar to those used in the country for watering the fields.

Interments still take place in cemeteries in the midst of the town.

But, notwithstanding this state of things, we hope that the end of the epidemic at Damietta is, thank God, approaching.

The present Report is, however, nothing more than an extract from the general Report which we are drawing up on the outbreak of the disease, and which is the real object of our mission to Damietta.

With respect to the information asked for by your Excellency as to the health of the cattle at and near Damietta, we are of opinion that bovine typhus is still very prevalent in this locality; for Dr. Ferrari himself saw an ox which was just dying, besides two carcasses recently thrown into the river.

We venture to ask your Excellency to let us know if the Reports we send you twice a-week contain the body of information which you wish; if they do, we will continue to send them.

We are, &c.

(Signed)

DR. G. FERRARI, *Director.*

DR. A. CHAFFEY, *Delegate of the Board of Damietta.*

No. 43.

Consul Cookson to Earl Granville.—(Received August 2.)

My Lord,

Alexandria, July 23, 1883.

I HAVE the honour to forward to your Lordship herewith a despatch addressed to me by Mr. Miéville, inclosing a Table showing the general mortality at Damietta from the 20th June to the 18th July.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

CHAS. A. COOKSON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 43.

Consul Miéville to Consul Cookson.

Sir,

Alexandria, July 23, 1883.

I AM now able to inclose a Table showing the general mortality of Damietta from the 20th June to the 18th July, and giving much fuller, though, I regret to say, still meagre information. From this Return, which is compiled from the most authentic information obtainable, it appears that the total mortality averaged sixty-nine a day, as against an average of four in normal times. The grand total of the deaths for the whole period—twenty-nine days—is 1,999, of which 1,830 were from cholera, and 169 from other diseases, the whole being equally divided as between males and females, while as regards nationality the total is made up as follows:—natives, 1,988; Syrians, 8; Greeks, 2; Russians, 1; so that it may be said that the cholera did not attack the European classes at all.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

W. F. MIÉVILLE, *British Delegate.*

Inclosure 2 in No. 43.

TABLE showing the General Mortality at Damietta from June 20 to July 18, 1883.

Date.	Locality.		Status.		Nationality.			Sex.				Grand Total.		
	Town.	Suburbs.	Rich.	Poor.	Egyptians.	Syrians.	Greeks.	Russians.	Total Males.	Females.				
										Adults.	Children.			
1883														
June 20 ..	4	..	..	4	4	..	..	..	2	1	1	2
" 21 ..	1	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	..
" 22 ..	13	1	1	13	14	..	..	..	6	3	5	8
" 23 ..	21	2	1	22	22	..	..	..	6	12	8	17
" 24 ..	24	1	2	23	25	..	..	..	12	8	5	13
" 25 ..	38	4	4	38	42	..	..	..	18	13	11	24
" 26 ..	45	2	4	43	47	..	..	..	12	10	10	37
" 27 ..	125	4	3	126	129	..	..	..	19	30	30	60
" 28 ..	103	3	4	102	106	..	..	..	31	38	23	113
" 29 ..	116	6	3	119	122	..	..	..	22	61	23	45
" 30 ..	104	10	4	113	114	..	..	..	37	37	21	113
July 1 ..	131	14	2	143	145	..	..	..	64	32	20	52
" 2 ..	129	9	4	134	138	..	..	..	62	40	33	73
" 3 ..	106	9	2	113	114	..	..	..	72	29	40	69
" 4 ..	105	10	4	111	112	..	..	1	69	44	21	65
" 5 ..	98	13	..	111	111	..	1	..	50	33	15	48		
" 6 ..	94	18	2	110	110	..	..	..	67	40	23	63
" 7 ..	70	27	..	97	97	..	..	..	48	38	21	59
" 8 ..	66	28	1	93	94	..	..	..	53	25	22	46
" 9 ..	48	13	1	60	60	..	..	..	51	28	22	50
" 10 ..	49	13	..	62	62	..	1	..	44	19	13	32		
" 11 ..	53	15	..	65	67	..	..	..	29	20	15	35
" 12 ..	28	14	2	40	41	..	..	..	27	20	9	28
" 13 ..	27	19	2	44	46	..	1	..	40	14	4	18		
" 14 ..	24	19	1	42	42	..	..	..	24	16	8	25
" 15 ..	31	11	..	42	42	..	..	..	21	17	9	23
" 16 ..	21	15	..	36	36	..	..	..	19	11	12	20
" 17 ..	15	9	..	24	24	..	..	..	16	7	5	11
" 18 ..	9	12	..	21	21	..	..	..	13	7	4	9
Total ..	1,698	301	47	1,952	1,988	8	2	1	484	513	997	1,002	1,830	1,999

No. 44.

Consul Cookson to Earl Granville.—(Received August 2.)

My Lord,

Alexandria, July 23, 1883.

I HAVE the honour to forward to your Lordship herewith a despatch addressed to me by Mr. Miéville, inclosing further correspondence respecting the alleged importation of cholera into Egypt by a fireman of the British steamer "Timor."

I have, &c.

(Signed) CHAS. A. COOKSON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 44.

Consul Miéville to Consul Cookson.

Sir,

Alexandria, July 23, 1883.

WITH reference to the alleged importation of cholera into Egypt by Mohamed Khalifa, a fireman of the steam-ship "Timor,"* I have the honour to forward herewith a copy of a letter from Dr. Flood, which was published in the official "Moniteur" of the 20th July, and in the first part of which an endeavour is made to reconcile the apparent discrepancies between Dr. Flood's first account and the man's own statement by asserting that Mohamed Khalifa left for Damietta on the 18th June, when he first disembarked, but returned to Port Saïd and again repaired to Damietta on the 23rd June.

From the annexed letter addressed to the President of the Maritime and Quarantine Sanitary Board by the Governor of Port Saïd, this theory seems untenable, as his Excellency the Governor states clearly that the fireman in question did not leave Port Saïd for Damietta until the 23rd June, and, having left, had not returned to that place up to the 9th instant, the date of his letter.

I have, &c.

(Signed) W. F. MIÉVILLE, *British Delegate.*

Inclosure 2 in No. 44.

Extract from the "Moniteur Égyptien" of July 20, 1883.

LA lettre suivante a été adressée par M. le Dr. Flood à son Excellence Salem Pacha :—

"Excellence,

"Port Saïd, le 10 Juillet, 1883.

"Comme suite à ma lettre datée du 5 Juillet courant, j'ai l'honneur de prévenir votre Excellence, que l'on cherche à établir que le nommé Mohamed Halifa n'est parti d'ici que le 18 Chabân (correspondant au 28 Juin) se rendant à Damiette, ayant été expulsé de cette ville (Port-Saïd) par ordre de son Excellence le Gouverneur-Général à cette date. Il est certain qu'il est parti d'ici pour Damiette le 23 Juin, mais cela n'empêche pas qu'il est parti d'ici pour la même destination aussi le 18 Juin, aussitôt son débarquement du steamer 'Timor;' il est alors revenu de Damiette le 21 Juin, a commis ici quelque délit pour lequel il a été expulsé et est retourné à Damiette. De ce qui précède, votre Excellence déduira certainement que ma première supposition de l'importation du choléra à Damiette par Mohamed Halifa (qui, au reste, a changé son nom, le vrai nom de cet individu étant Halil Omar) est toujours admissible.

"Quant à l'importation du choléra et son développement à Port-Saïd, il n'y a aucun doute que les premiers cas aient frappé des personnes qui revenaient de la foire de Damiette. Le premier cas (lequel, à cause des narrations mensongères des parents, est passé inaperçu et fut constaté comme causé par maladie) était un jeune homme, âgé de 15 ans, revenu de Damiette depuis quelques jours, décédé le 23 Juin; son père fut atteint le 30 Juin et mourut le lendemain; sa mère fut atteinte le 4 Juillet et mourut après quelques heures de maladie. En tout j'ai constaté onze cas de choléra, dont huit suivis de mort; le premier fut constaté le 25 Juin, le dernier le 3 Juillet au matin; des huit cas suivis de mort, j'ai visité les quatre plusieurs fois pendant la vie, et ces quatre (tant avant qu'après la mort) présentaient tous les symptômes caracté-

* See Inclosure 2 in No. 21.

ristiques du vrai choléra Asiatique; les autres quatre n'ont été visités qu'après la mort (sans autopsie, opération que les circonstances me faisaient considérer comme imprudent de faire). Des trois cas non suivis de mort, un jeune homme de 20 ans passait de la période algide dans la période typhoïde et est aujourd'hui en état de convalescence; les deux autres, femmes de 22 à 26 ans, je considère comme cas de cholérine (sans algidité), et elles sont aujourd'hui guéries. Ayant constaté que tous ceux qui étaient atteints de choléra appartenaient à quatre familles, je faisais évacuer leurs quatre habitations, lesquelles furent blanchies, désinfectées et fermées, tandis que les individus survivants, sept en nombre, furent installés dans une des baraques de notre lazaret provisoire, où ils resteront isolés pendant douze jours. Cette mesure prise, je n'ai plus eu à constater aucun nouveau cas de choléra depuis sept jours.

"Je dois attribuer la lenteur du développement de la maladie dans notre ville, principalement aux conditions atmosphériques extrêmement favorables, depuis une vingtaine de jours: le vent du nord-ouest, qui souffle constamment, la basse température (entre 24 et 29 degrés cent.), la sécheresse de l'atmosphère. Aussi les conditions hygiéniques de Port-Saïd sont-elles bonnes, et comparativement à celles de l'intérieur, celles de notre village ne sont pas mauvaises. J'ose aussi déclarer que le zèle et l'activité déployés tant par les autorités que par les particuliers pour l'assainissement de la ville entrent pour une bonne part dans les heureux résultats obtenus jusqu'à ce jour.

"Veuillez, &c.
"Le Médecin Sanitaire,
(Signé) "DR. FLOOD."

(Translation.)

THE following letter has been addressed by Dr. Flood to his Excellency Salem Pasha:—

"Excellency,

"Port Saïd, July 10, 1883.

"In continuation of my letter of the 5th July, I have the honour to warn your Excellency that attempts are being made to show that the man Mohamed Halifa did not leave here till the 18th Shaban (28th June) for Damietta, having been expelled from this town (Port Saïd) on that day by order of his Excellency the Governor-General. It is certain that he left this place for Damietta on the 23rd June, but that does not prevent his having left here for that town on the 18th June as well, immediately after disembarking from the 'Timor;' he then returned from Damietta on the 21st June, committed some offence for which he was expelled, and returned to Damietta. Your Excellency will certainly conclude from the above that my first supposition that cholera had been imported at Damietta by Mohamed Halifa (who, moreover, has changed his name, for he is really called Halil Omar) is still admissible.

"With regard to the importation of cholera and its spread at Port Saïd, there is no doubt but that the first cases were persons coming back from the fair at Damietta. The first case (which owing to the untruths put forward by the parents passed unnoticed, and was registered as death from disease) was that of a young man, 15 years old, who died on the 23rd June, a few days after his return from Damietta; his father was attacked on the 30th June, and died next day; his mother was attacked on the 4th July, and died in a few hours. In all I have ascertained that there were eleven cases of cholera, of which eight were fatal; the first was on the 25th June, the last on the 3rd July in the morning; of the eight fatal cases, I visited four several times during life, and these four (both before and after death) showed all the characteristic symptoms of real Asiatic cholera; the others were only seen after death (without *post-mortem* examination, an operation which, owing to the circumstances of the case, I considered it imprudent to perform). Of the three non-fatal cases, a young man of 20 was already passing from the state of algidity to that of typhus, but is now convalescent; the two others, women of from 22 to 26, I consider cases of cholérine (without algidity); they are now cured. Having ascertained that all those attacked by cholera belonged to four families, I had their four houses emptied, whitewashed, disinfected, and shut up, while the survivors, seven in number, were put up in one of the sheds of our provisional lazaretto, where they will remain isolated for twelve days. For seven days after these measures I had no further case of cholera to record.

"I attribute the slow spread of the sickness in our town principally to the favourable condition of the atmosphere for the last twenty days, a continuous north-

west wind, low temperature (between 24 and 29 degrees centigrade), and a dry air. Moreover, the sanitary condition of Port Saïd is good, and compared with those of the interior, the condition of our villages is not bad. Further, I do not hesitate to say that the zeal and activity shown both by the officials and by private individuals in improving the sanitary state of the town have a good deal to do with the favourable state of affairs which has hitherto prevailed.

"I have, &c.
(Signed) "DR. FLOOD, *Sanitary Doctor*."

Inclosure 3 in No. 44.

The Governor of Port Saïd to Dr. Hassan.

Le 19 Juillet, 1883.

J'AI l'honneur de porter à votre connaissance, qu'il résulte des recherches faites au sujet de Mohamed Khalifa, chauffeur, qu'il était parti de Port-Saïd pour Bombay, le 25 Avril, 1883, à bord d'un bateau Anglais nommé "Timor," qui a quitté Bombay à destination de Port-Saïd, le jour du 31 Mai, 1883, et est arrivé à Port-Saïd le jour du 19 Juin, 1883. Le dit chauffeur a débarqué à Port-Saïd, et s'est rendu à son domicile, puis est parti pour Damiette, le 23 Juin, 1883, et n'est plus revenu.

Le chef des chauffeurs a déclaré que le dit Mohamed Khalifa ne s'est pas rendu à Damiette avant son dernier voyage.

(Signé) Le Gouverneur de Port-Saïd.

(Translation.)

July 19, 1883.

I HAVE the honour to bring to your knowledge that it appears from investigations made with regard to Mohamed Khalifa, a stoker, that the said individual left Port Saïd for Bombay on the 25th April, 1883, on board an English ship called the "Timor," which left Bombay for Port Saïd on the 31st May, 1883, and reached Port Saïd on the 19th June, 1883. The said stoker landed at Port Saïd and went to his home, then left for Damietta on the 23rd June, 1883, and has not returned.

The head stoker declared that the said Mohamed Khalifa did not go to Damietta before his last voyage.

(Signed) The Governor of Port Saïd.

No. 45.

Sir E. Malet to Earl Granville.—(Received August 8.)

My Lord,

Cairo, July 24, 1883.

I HAVE the honour to inclose an extract from a letter which I have received from Dr. Mackie with regard to the cholera. He forwards to me a telegram from Dr. Dutrieux, copy of which is likewise inclosed.

I have, &c.
(Signed) EDWARD B. MALET.

Inclosure 1 in No. 45.

Dr. Mackie to Sir E. Malet.

(Extract.)

Alexandria, July 21, 1883.

I BEG to forward, for your information, a telegram which I received this afternoon from Dr. Dutrieux Bey, who was sent to Mansourah by the Government about a week ago, to give his aid in the infected district.

The co-existence of cases of typhoid fever (*typhus abdominalis*) with cholera which it mentions is no new observation, and nothing to be wondered at according to modern views of the causation of zymotic disease. I am not sure that Dr. Dutrieux has ever had experience in a cholera epidemic; I am rather of opinion that he has not.

It would be no wonder, then, if with only a few days' experience he may have been misled by the typhoid state often occurring in convalescence from cholera during an epidemic, and called cholera-typhoid. Dr. Dutrieux has been a great traveller, and is a man of trained observation, but may not have had experience in this disease.

Dr. Haddad, who was sent to Mansourah by the Relief Committee a few days before Dr. Dutrieux, had experience of cholera in Syria. I have had several communications from him, and he mentions only cholera-typhoid.

With regard to the part of Dr. Dutrieux' telegram where he asserts that the disease has had a local origin, I would remark that although it may appear exceedingly probable and possible, it is hardly to be asserted after only a few days study; but his evidence goes to corroborate what is unfortunately notorious, the extraordinarily unsanitary condition of that part of the country.

I have suggested that if the cordons for the villages are to be of any use they ought at once to encircle a considerable district, and not single villages only, as the moment cholera breaks out in a village many of the inhabitants, to avoid being imprisoned by the cordon, made their escape to some other village in the district before the authorities had time to encircle the affected village.

With regard to isolation of houses or buildings in which a case of cholera has happened, I would beg to submit to you the great hardship in many such cases. I will cite as example a case which happened in this town. Mrs. J—— was taken ill and presented symptoms of cholera; as soon as it became known in the building, a large one full of lodging-houses, the whole of the inhabitants fled to the street for fear of being imprisoned for ten days by a cordon. Mrs. J——, an old woman, was hourly becoming worse, and was left alone with no one to look after her. The neighbours were not afraid of cholera; several of them offered to remain and nurse her if they had a guarantee from the authorities that they would not be shut up for an indefinite period after. Some of them were clerks in offices, others were actors and actresses in a neighbouring theatre, and stated that they had families to support, and could not, and would not, stay to be shut up from their work, and their only means of livelihood. The Sanitary authorities came and isolated the house, but had no nurse to put in charge of the poor woman, and none could be found. The consequence was that it was judged best to remove her to hospital, which she resisted with what strength and consciousness she had left, and there was in consequence considerable trouble and difficulty in removing her, which was at last accomplished twelve hours after the onset of the disease. She died in the Deaconesses' Hospital twelve hours after her arrival there.

What I wish to point out with regard to such cases is that if the Sanitary authorities are to continue to practise isolation for houses and buildings in which a case of cholera occurs, they ought to have ready a staff of male and female nurses, to be able to put a nurse in charge of the patient, to remain in the isolated building in cases where the patients have no family to nurse them, as in the case I have cited. In many such cases I believe that transporting them roughly, or a long distance to a hospital, would deprive them of all chance of recovery. This certainly does not seem right. It is true that one, several even, may have to be sacrificed to save the many, but there is no reason why any should be sacrificed unnecessarily, and if the Sanitary authorities are to carry out this system they ought to provide for the patients to be cared for and nursed in cases where their state is such that they would be deprived of all chance of recovery by removal (often a very long distance, and often during the night) to a cholera hospital. I need hardly mention that the removal is practised, and always will be practised in a very rough way. That there are cases which must be removed to hospital I admit—cases in which the only chance of recovery lies in being removed from their own filthy, pestilential dwellings.

I intend to bring this to the notice of the Executive Council of the Sanitary Commission here, and if you agree with me as to the necessity of the Sanitary Board providing at once a staff of nurses for cases which ought to be treated without removal, I shall feel obliged by your giving it your support. As I referred to the hardships of cordons in my last Report to Earl Granville, I shall be glad if you will forward a copy of this with your despatches.

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Inclosure 2 in No. 47.

Dr. Dutrieux to Dr. Mackie.

(Télégraphique.)

Mansourah, July 21, 1883, 5 P.M.

MES observations dans plusieurs localités infectées m'ont révélé l'apparition simultanée et l'existence typhus abdominal et cas cholériques. J'ai même constaté forme morbide intermédiaire avec taches pétéchiales. Considéré épidémie régnant comme choléra local spontané dû à causes locales. Comme typhus existant, crois à parentée entre ces deux maladies. Suis convaincu observations ultérieures démontreront clairement. Causes locales frappent quiconque parcourt Basse-Égypte tellement intenses que comprends pas qu'elles n'occasionnent pas épidémie meurtrière. Seraient capables d'engendrer peste; car crois épidémie à formé plusieurs foyers multiples même avant constatation officielle Damiette. Ce fait est notoire pour quiconque recueille informations impartiales dans villages Égypte. Pouvez communiquer Londres; important éclaircissement; opinion égarée.

(Translation.)

(Telegraphic.)

Mansourah, July 21, 1883, 5 P.M.

MY observations in several infected localities have revealed to me the simultaneous appearance and the existence of abdominal typhus and cholera cases. I have even ascertained the existence of an intermediate morbid form with petechial spots. Consider prevailing epidemic local spontaneous cholera, due to local causes. As typhus existing, believe in relationship between these two diseases; am convinced ulterior observations will show it clearly. Local causes strike any one travelling in Lower Egypt as so intense that do not understand that should not produce deadly epidemic. Might produce plague; for think epidemic formed several *multiple foci* before officially reported Damietta. This fact obvious to any one collecting unbiassed information in Egyptian villages. May send London; important information; opinion had got wrong.

No. 46.

Sir E. Malet to Earl Granville.—(Received August 8.)

My Lord,

Cairo, July 24, 1883.

I HAVE the honour to inclose copy of a letter from Chérif Pasha, communicating to me the decision of the Council of Ministers, by which Generals Stephenson, Wood, and Baker, as also the Prefect of Police of Cairo, are invited to join His Highness' Ministers in an Extraordinary Commission to take steps for coping with the cholera epidemic.

I have, &c.

(Signed) EDWARD B. MALET.

Inclosure 1 in No. 46.

Chérif Pasha to Sir E. Malet.

Mon cher Ministre,

Caire, le 23 Juillet, 1883.

J'AI l'honneur de vous transmettre ci-jointe une copie de la décision prise par le Conseil des Ministres dans sa séance d'aujourd'hui au sujet de la Commission Supérieure Extraordinaire, instituée à l'effet de combattre l'épidémie.

Je vous prie, M. le Ministre, de vouloir bien communiquer cette décision au Général Stephenson, Commandant-en-chef de l'Armée d'Ocupation, et le prier de vouloir bien prendre part aux travaux de la Commission.

Veuillez, &c.

(Signé) CHÉRIF.

(Translation.)

My dear Minister,

Cairo, July 23, 1883.

I HAVE the honour to inclose copy of a Resolution passed by the Council of Ministers at their meeting this day respecting the Extraordinary Superior Committee established to cope with the epidemic.

I have to ask you to communicate this Resolution to General Stephenson, Commander-in-chief of the Army of Occupation, and to request him to take part in the labours of the Committee.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CHÉRIF.

Inelasure 2 in No. 46.

Decision of the Council of Ministers, dated July 31, 1883.

CONSIDÉRANT que depuis l'apparition de l'épidémie au Caire, les Ministres présents en cette ville se réunissaient tous les soirs chez son Excellence le Ministre de l'Intérieur, pour arrêter et prescrire les mesures nécessaires de concert avec le Conseil de Santé et d'Hygiène Publique, à l'effet de combattre le fléau ;

Considérant que la présence au Caire d'une grande partie de l'Armée d'Occupation rend utile et nécessaire la participation du Général-in-chef de cette armée aux travaux de cette réunion ;

Que la même considération s'applique au Général Sirdar de l'armée Égyptienne, au Préfet de Police du Caire, Président de la Commission Spéciale Sanitaire, et au Général Commandant-en-chef de la Gendarmerie et de la Police,

Estime qu'il y a lieu d'inviter Général Stephenson, Commandant-en-chef de l'Armée d'Occupation, à vouloir bien prendre part, ainsi que le Général Sir Evelyn Wood, Sirdar de l'armée Égyptienne, le Préfet de Police du Caire, et le Général Baker Pacha, Commandant-en-chef de la Gendarmerie et de la Police, aux travaux de la réunion des Ministres, laquelle prendra le nom de "Commission Supérieure Extraordinaire" aux effets ci-dessus, et dont les décisions seront exécutées par les soins du Ministre de l'Intérieur.

Pour copie conforme :

Le Secrétaire du Conseil des Ministres,
(Signé) M. KAHIL.

(Translation.)

WHEREAS the Ministers in town have, since the appearance of the epidemic at Cairo, been in the habit of meeting every evening at the house of his Excellency the Minister of the Interior for the purpose of settling and ordering, in concert with the Public Health and Sanitary Board, the measures necessary for coping with the scourge ;

Whereas the fact that a great part of the Army of Occupation is at Cairo would make the presence of the General-in-chief of that army useful and necessary at these meetings ;

Whereas the same is the case with regard to the General Sirdar of the Egyptian Army, the Prefect of Police of Cairo, the President of the Special Sanitary Committee, and the General Commanding-in-chief the Constabulary and the Police,

Is of opinion that General Stephenson, Commander-in-chief of the Army of Occupation, should be asked, together with General Sir Evelyn Wood, Sirdar of the Egyptian Army, the Prefect of Police of Cairo, and General Baker Pasha, Commander-in-chief of the Constabulary and Police, to take part in the meetings of the Ministers, which will be known as the Superior Extraordinary Committee, and the decisions of which will be executed under the supervision of the Minister of the Interior.

True copy,
(Signed) M. KAHIL, *Secretary of the Council of Ministers.*

No. 47.

Sir E. Malet to Earl Granville.—(Received August 8.)

My Lord,

Cairo, July 25, 1883.

I HAVE the honour to state that the Viceroy of India, having telegraphed to me on the 22nd that forty Mahommedan hospital assistants were ready to start from India if required by the Egyptian Government, I informed Khairy Pasha, the Minister of the Interior, of the offer ; and I have now the honour to inclose copy of the reply which I

have received from his Excellency, thanking the Marquis of Ripon for his kindness, and explaining the reasons for declining it.

I have, &c.
(Signed) EDWARD B. MALET.

Inclosure in No. 47.

Khairy Pasha to Sir E. Malet.

M. le Ministre,

Le Caire, le 24 Juillet, 1883.

JE me suis empressé de soumettre au Conseil de Santé et d'Hygiène Publique la bienveillante proposition que son Excellence le Vice-Roi des Indes a daigné de faire au Gouvernement Égyptien par votre entremise.

Le Conseil de Santé est très sensible à l'offre, mais il considère toutefois ne pouvoir l'accepter, car il est d'avis que les quarante infirmiers dont il est question arriveraient en Égypte trop tard, alors que l'épidémie sera dans sa pleine décroissance. Le Conseil précité ayant, en outre, été autorisé à engager sur place les infirmiers, en possède actuellement un nombre plus que suffisant.

C'est donc avec les sentiments de la plus sincère reconnaissance que je décline l'offre de son Excellence le Vice-Roi des Indes, tout en vous priant, M. le Ministre, de vouloir bien lui faire parvenir ces expressions.

Veillez, &c.
(Le Ministre de l'Intérieur),
(Signé) KHAÏRY.

(Translation.)

Sir,

Cairo, July 24, 1883

I LOST no time in submitting to the Public Health and Sanitary Board the kind offer made by his Excellency the Viceroy of India, through you, to the Egyptian Government.

The Sanitary Board fully appreciate the offer, but cannot accept it, as they are of opinion that the forty hospital assistants in question would arrive in Egypt too late—when the epidemic would be rapidly dying out. The said Council, moreover, having been authorized to engage hospital assistants here, has at this moment a greater number than are wanted.

It is therefore with the sincerest thanks that I decline the offer of his Excellency the Viceroy of India, and at the same time ask you to convey to him the expression thereof.

I am, &c.
(Signed) KHAÏRY, Minister of the Interior.

No. 48.

Sir E. Malet to Earl Granville.—(Received August 8.)

My Lord,

Cairo, July 26, 1883.

I HAVE the honour to inclose a further letter from Dr. Flood, published in the "Moniteur Égyptien," stating that Mohammed Halifa went to Damietta on the 18th June and returned to Port Saïd on the 21st.

The inclosed despatch from Consul Burrell shows clearly, first, that the "Timor" only reached Port Saïd on the afternoon of the 19th June; and secondly, that Mohammed Halifa could not have reached Damietta till the 24th or 25th.

I have, &c.
(Signed) EDWARD B. MALET.

Inclosure 1 in No. 48.

Extract from the "Moniteur Égyptien" of July 20, 1883.

[See Inclosure 2 in No. 44.]

Inclosure 2 in No. 48.

Consul Burrell to Sir E. Malet.

Sir, *Port Saïd, July 24, 1883.*

I HAVE the honour to state, in reply to your despatch of the 22nd instant, asking me to read a Report of Dr. Flood in the "Moniteur Égyptien," and to inform you if there is any foundation for the statement contained in it that Mohamed Halifa went to Damietta on the 18th June and returned to Port Saïd, that, so far as I have been able to ascertain, there is no foundation whatever for such a statement.

The Sheikh of the firemen here again assures me that Mohamed Halifa did not leave Port Saïd to go to Damietta, or any other place, between the 18th and 22nd June.

Moreover, Mohamed Halifa only arrived here on the 19th June, and did not leave Port Saïd until sent away by the Governor; the "Timor," the ship on which he was fireman, having reached Port Saïd on the 19th June at 4.12 P.M.

The letter of the Governor to Joyce Bey, the Captain of the Port, which states that he is sending away Mohamed Halifa on account of his bad conduct, is dated the 23rd June, and on that day, or the next, Halifa went to Damietta for the first time since his arrival at Port Saïd.

It would take a whole day to get to Damietta.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. PALFREY BURRELL.

No. 49.

Sir E. Malet to Earl Granville.—(Received August 9.)

(Telegraphic.) *Cairo, August 8, 1883, 7.30 P.M.*

SURGEON-GENERAL HUNTER leaves to-morrow on a tour of inspection in Lower Egypt. He will be accompanied by Major MacDonald, Mr. Gibson, and Mr. Cameron, and be absent three or four days.

The Government has placed a special train at his service for the whole journey.

No. 50.

Mr. Cookson to Earl Granville.—(Received August 11.)

(Telegraphic.) *Alexandria, August 11, 1883.*

THE day before yesterday, owing to opposition of the Arab population to manner of interment ordered by the Executive Sanitary Commission, some slight disturbances took place in town, in one of which an European employé of the Sanitary Commission was severely handled by the mob. At a meeting held yesterday arrangements were made by the Sanitary Commission to conciliate this opposition; but at 6.30 P.M., in consequence of further excitement attending the disinfection of the house of Arab woman supposed to have been taken to one of the ambulance hospitals near Fort Napoléon, a crowd of several hundred natives destroyed by stones a part of the ambulance. Police, with assistance of English military patrol in the neighbourhood, dispersed the mob and order was restored in a short time. All quiet to-day.

No. 51.

Sir E. Malet to Earl Granville.—(Received August 14.)

My Lord, *Cairo, August 3, 1883.*

I HAVE the honour to report to your Lordship that the twelve doctors sent out from England at the request of the Egyptian Government have arrived. Two, at the desire of the Minister of the Interior, remain at Alexandria, and the rest are now here.

They will be under the orders of Dr. Salem Pasha, President of the Sanitary Board, but Surgeon-General Hunter will have the control of their employment.

I have, &c.

(Signed) EDWARD B. MALET.

No. 52.

Sir E. Malet to Earl Granville.—(Received August 14.)

My Lord,

Cairo, August 5, 1883.

I HAVE the honour to inclose herewith a despatch addressed to me by Mr. Vice-Consul Borg, dated the 4th instant, reporting on the epidemic of cholera at Cairo.

I have, &c.

(Signed) EDWARD B. MALET.

Inclosure 1 in No. 52.

Vice-Consul Borg to Sir E. Malet.

(Extract.)

Cairo, August 4, 1883.

I HAVE the honour to report that the epidemic which, during the latter third of the month of June, broke out at Damietta, after ravaging Mansourah and other villages in the Delta, made its appearance at Ghizeh, and, on the 15th ultimo, appeared at Boulak, from which it spread through every quarter of the capital. The disease, which the Medical Commissions sent to Damietta have declared to be "Asiatic cholera" of the epidemic type, is thought by the sanitary authorities to have been carried almost simultaneously to Ghizeh and Boulak by refugees from the Menzaleh district before it could be surrounded by a sanitary cordon. The hygienic conditions of Ghizeh and Boulak being extremely favourable to the development of the germs of disease, whether on account of accumulated filth in the streets and habitations or from the dirty habits of the inhabitants, the propagation has been rapidly effected, and funerals being then allowed to go through every quarter of the town, the dead being carried in coffins of the slightest descriptions, covered with shawls afterwards worn by relatives of the deceased, the infection has been carried in every direction.

As early as the 5th July the Consular Body at Cairo, in view of the probability of an invasion, asked to be constituted into a Special Sanitary Commission, to adopt such measures in conjunction with the Board of Health as might be deemed necessary to minimize the effects of the epidemic at Cairo. Much, of course, remains to be done; but I feel convinced that whatever may appear necessary will be carried out, as, by tacit understanding, national and personal jealousies have been sunk into the predominant thoughts of minimizing the effects of the epidemic, and of affording as much relief as possible to suffering humanity. I am glad to be able to report that the English and other gentlemen whom I have appointed members of Sub-Committees vie with each other in the discharge of their arduous duties.

The Returns herein inclosed for the two weeks ended the 28th July show 764 deaths from cholera in the first and 2,438 in the second week. These figures do not compare favourably with those officially given for the epidemic of 1865, which stood at 205 for the first and 1,919 for the second week. The figures given in these Returns do not agree with those of the daily bulletins issued by the Board of Health, the former being framed for the twenty-four hours ending at 8 p.m. and the latter for periods ending at 8 a.m. I have every reason to believe that the figures given in these Returns correctly represent the number of deaths on every day, as, through the kindness of the Sanitary Inspector, I am allowed access to the original Returns sent to him from every quarter of the town from which these are framed.

It will be observed that the quarters which have suffered most during the two weeks are Boulak and Old Cairo. It should be borne in mind, however, that the standing nuisances in the town proper—such as narrowness of streets, want of proper ventilation in many quarters and habitations, bad and insufficient or complete absence of drains, and the low, dirty, filthy habits of the natives—are even more intensified among the inhabitants of Boulak and Old Cairo. In these two quarters almost all the low classes live in mud-built hovels, seldom measuring above 8 feet by 8 feet, and

about 6 feet high, having one or perhaps two small apertures through which an uncertain light fights its way in broad noonday, and through which a small quantity of vitiated air is with difficulty let out. In these mean hovels, or rather dens of misery and squalor, usually built close together in rows facing each other at distances of about 6 to 8 feet, families of five, six, or even more persons live for the most part in common with their poultry, sheep, or other cattle! The disease broke out among the wretched inhabitants of these places, and in the two weeks 1,504 paid with their lives at Boulak and 497 at Old Cairo.

Of English families living at Boulak I am sorry to report that two persons have suffered and in the same family, the first fatal case occurring on the 20th and the second on the 28th ultimo. The second death, I fear, is mainly due to the fact that the house had not been properly disinfected, and that efficient measures had not been taken to minimize the dangers to which all the members of the family were exposed. Of the Maltese community living at Boulak under circumstances which, from a sanitary point of view, leave very much to be desired, I am glad to be able to report that, to my knowledge, four only have fallen victims to the epidemic during the two weeks above mentioned.

The accompanying Return of population for the several quarters of Cairo will show that the deaths from cholera during the two weeks have amounted to 29·86 per 1,000 for Boulak and 24·14 per 1,000 for Old Cairo, while on the total population the deaths have been 8·73 per 1,000.

I annex, for such scientific purposes as may be required, a comparative Table of deaths at Cairo from all causes during the prevalence of cholera. The mean average rate of deaths during eleven months in the year is 45 per diem, while during the month of Ramadan (this year the month of July) it generally rises to about 52 per diem owing to the abuses committed during the hours of the night generally by the middle and lower classes. It will be observed from the said Table that the comparison for the second week, the figures for the first not being given, shows a diminution of 116 upon the corresponding week in 1865. It should be borne in mind, moreover, that the month of Ramadan in 1865 corresponded to about the month of March.

I inclose a Table of meteorological observations for the two weeks and for the corresponding period in 1865. The mean average barometrical pressure has been as follows :—

	1883.	1865.
First week	753·50	755·28
Second week	753·68	756·
Mean average	753·59	755·64

The mean average temperature has been :—

	1883.	1865.
	Centigrade.	Centigrade.
First week	29·6	29·2
Second week	30·7	28·7
Mean average	30·1	29·

The hygrometer has given the following mean average results :—

	1883.	1865.
First week	46·76	39·35
Second week	42·33	41·33
Mean average	44·54	39·84

The prevailing winds in the first week this year have been north-east and north, against south-west, north-west, and west in 1865. In the second week, also north-east and north this year, against west and south-west in 1865.

I regret I have not succeeded in obtaining, for the purpose of comparison, a Table of the rise of the Nile in 1865, and I give, therefore, one for this year only.

I am glad to be able to say that the epidemic seems to have entered the stage of decrease, and I hope I may soon have the satisfaction to report that the scourge has completely disappeared.

Having myself gone through two cholera epidemics, I beg, before concluding this despatch, to be allowed to place on record, for what they may be worth, two observations made by myself as well as by others.

1. In 1855 and 1865, about a fortnight before the outbreak of cholera, sparrows and other birds took their flight from the towns which became afterwards infected, and did not again appear until the epidemic had almost ceased. Some keener observers assure me that flies and mosquitos were not visible during the prevalence of the epidemics. On the present occasion, even while the disease was on the increase, sparrows were and are to be seen as usual, and are heard chirruping their gay notes, while flies and mosquitos are, if possible, a greater nuisance than ever. The absence of birds during cholera epidemics—according to the “Zoological Garden,” a newspaper published at Frankfort-on-the-Main—has also been observed in 1848 at St. Petersburg and at Riga, in 1849 in Western Prussia, in 1850 at Hanover, in 1872 at Przemysl in Galicia, and also at Nuremberg and Munich.

2. When cholera was at its height, in the early part of July 1865, the sky was lead-coloured, the atmosphere oppressive so as to render breathing rather difficult at times, and the town of Cairo seemed to be enveloped in a spherical cloud of thick mist; whereas, thus far, we have enjoyed a pure azure sky and a comparatively light atmosphere.

I trust I may be pardoned if, through a pressure of general official work, in which I could not be assisted by any one of my very limited staff, and owing to the time required and the difficulty experienced in obtaining some particulars, as also through illness in my family, I have not been able to make this Report as early as I desired.

Inclosure 2 in No. 52.

POPULATION of Cairo per Census taken on May 4, 1882.

Quarter.					Population.		
					Males.	Females.	Total.
Abbasiyah	..	..	..	..	7,109	6,594	13,703
Abdin ..	..	..	..	..	13,185	14,421	27,606
Boulak ..	..	..	..	..	25,011	25,351	50,362
Bab-el-Chariyah	..	..	..	..	20,658	21,286	41,944
Choubrah	..	..	..	..	5,199	5,951	11,150
Darb-el-Ahmar	..	..	..	..	14,304	15,224	29,528
Ezbekiyah	..	..	..	..	28,798	30,001	58,799
Ghemaliyah	..	..	..	..	15,479	14,269	29,748
Khalifah	..	..	..	..	17,758	18,957	36,715
Mouskee	..	..	..	..	5,711	6,495	12,206
Old Cairo	..	..	..	..	10,918	9,664	20,582
Sayyeda Zenab	..	..	..	..	15,897	18,253	34,150
Grand totals	..	..	..	..	180,027	186,466	366,493

Inclosure 3 in No. 52.

COMPARATIVE Table of Deaths at Cairo during the Prevalence of Cholera.

1883.				1865.			
Date.	From Cholera.	Other Causes.	Total.	Date.	From Cholera.	Other Causes.	Total.
July 15 ..	3	74	77	June 21 ..	2	..	..
„ 16 ..	3	88	91	„ 22 ..	2	..	..
„ 17 ..	46	80	126	„ 23 ..	3	..	..
„ 18 ..	69	75	144	„ 24 ..	17	..	..
„ 19 ..	111	83	194	„ 25 ..	25	..	..
„ 20 ..	186	66	252	„ 26 ..	71	..	..
„ 21 ..	347	70	417	„ 27 ..	85	..	..
„ 22 ..	401	60	461	„ 28 ..	93	75	168
„ 23 ..	405	57	462	„ 29 ..	136	65	201
„ 24 ..	405	70	475	„ 30 ..	216	84	300
„ 25 ..	332	64	396	July 1 ..	329	77	406
„ 26 ..	292	80	372	„ 2 ..	306	90	396
„ 27 ..	290	69	359	„ 3 ..	382	112	494
„ 28 ..	313	71	384	„ 4 ..	457	84	541

Inclosure 4 in No. 52.

METEOROLOGICAL Observations at Cairo during the prevalence of Cholera.

1883.												1865.											
Date.	Barometer, corrected to 0° temp.				Thermometer (Centigrade).				Hygrometer. Mean Average.	Ozonometer. (0 to 21) 1 P.M.	Direction of Wind.			Nilometer.	Date.	Barometer, corrected to 0° temp.		Thermometer (Centigrade).		Hygrometer. Mean Average.	Direction of Wind.		
	7 A.M.		1 P.M.		7 P.M.		7 A.M.	1 P.M.			7 P.M.	Sunrise.	2 P.M.			Sunrise.	2 P.M.						
	7 A.M.	1 P.M.	7 P.M.	7 A.M.	1 P.M.	7 P.M.																	
July 15	754.18	753.17	752.27	34.2	23.7	34.2	34.2	48.33	7.°		N.E.	N.	N.	Pics. kirats. 8 22	June 21	756.°	756.°	29.4	31.2	40.°	S.W.	W.	
16	754.37	752.51	751.65	33.4	23.7	34.2	33.4	46.°	4.°		N.E.	N.	N.	9 5	22	755.°	755.°	30.2	32.°	40.°	S.W.	S.W.	
17	752.35	751.10	749.66	32.7	25.2	32.7	35.2	46.66	5.°		N.E.	N.	N.	9 7	23	756.°	756.°	28.3	30.3	40.°	W.	W.	
18	752.22	752.14	751.75	32.8	25.5	35.2	32.8	47.66	4.°		N.N.W.	N.W.	N.	9 9	24	754.°	752.°	27.2	31.2	40.°	N.W.	W.	
19	755.33	755.33	754.59	32.2	23.2	32.2	30.5	45.33	5.°		N.E.	N.	N.	9 10	25	755.°	755.°	26.3	30.5	37.°	N.W.	W.	
20	756.58	755.79	754.91	31.2	21.7	30.7	31.2	42.66	4.°		N.E.	N.	N.	9 13	26	754.°	756.°	26.2	30.4	35.°	S.W.	S.W.	
21	755.73	754.61	753.18	29.2	22.2	30.°	29.2	50.66	4.°		N.E.	N.E.	N.	9 15	27	756.°	758.°	24.4	32.°	36.5	N.W.	N.W.	
22	754.05	754.24	753.60	31.7	23.2	32.2	31.7	46.33	3.°		N.	N.E.	N.	9 17	28	757.°	759.°	23.8	31.4	37.°	N.W.	S.W.	
23	753.97	753.50	753.20	33.1	22.7	34.5	33.1	43.°	4.°		N.E.	N.W.	N.E.	9 19	29	756.°	756.°	24.6	32.4	38.°	W.	W.	
24	754.78	752.60	753.34	35.2	23.°	36.2	35.2	43.°	6.°		N.	N.E.	N.	9 22	30	756.°	756.°	26.5	32.3	39.8	S.W.	S.W.	
25	754.53	753.25	751.81	34.2	24.2	35.7	34.2	36.66	8.°		N.E.	N.E.	N.	10 3	1	756.°	756.°	25.5	32.5	49.5	W.	S.W.	
26	756.58	758.48	755.28	33.2	24.2	34.7	33.2	40.66	6.°		N.E.	N.E.	N.	10 11	2	755.°	755.°	26.4	32.°	40.5	W.	S.W.	
27	752.98	751.25	751.25	35.2	24.2	35.2	35.2	43.33	6.°		N.E.	N.E.	N.	10 21	3	756.°	756.°	24.2	32.4	41.5	N.W.	W.	
28	753.33	752.94	752.30	33.2	24.7	34.4	33.2	43.33	6.°		N.E.	N.E.	N.	11 9	4	755.°	755.°	25.4	33.°	43.°	W.	S.W.	

RETURN of Deaths from Cholera at Cairo during the Week ended July 21, 1883. (Twenty-four hours, ending at 8 P.M.)

Quarters.	July 15.				July 16.				July 17.				July 18.				July 19.				July 20.				July 21.				Totals.	
	Natives and Copis.		Europeans.		Natives and Copis.		Europeans.		Natives and Copis.		Europeans.		Natives and Copis.		Europeans.		Natives and Copis.		Europeans.		Natives and Copis.		Europeans.		Natives and Copis.		Europeans.		Males.	Females.
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.				
Abbasiah	
Abdeen	
Bab-el-Charyah	
Boulaq	
Choubrah	
Darb-el-Ahmar	
Ezbekiyah	
Ghemallyah	
Khalifa	
Mouakee	
Old Cairo	
Sayyida Zenab	
Hospital	
Totals	3	3	1	2	21	24	38	31	56	54	103	80	163	181	386	372
Grand totals	6		3		3		46		69		111		186		347		765													

RETURN of Deaths from Cholera at Cairo during the Week ended July 23, 1883. (Twenty-four hours, ending at 8 P.M.)

Quarters.	July 22.				July 23.				July 24.				July 25.				July 26.				July 27.				July 28.				Totals.	
	Natives and Copis.		Europeans.		Natives and Copis.		Europeans.		Natives and Copis.		Europeans.		Natives and Copis.		Europeans.		Natives and Copis.		Europeans.		Natives and Copis.		Europeans.		Natives and Copis.		Europeans.		Males.	Females.
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.		
Abbasiah
Abdeen
Bab-el-Charyah
Boulaq
Choubra
Darb-el-Ahmar
Ezbekiyah
Ghemallyah
Khalifa
Mouakee
Old Cairo
Sayyida Zenab
Hospital
Totals...
Grand totals

Sir E. Malet to Earl Granville.—(Received August 14.)

My Lord,

Cairo, August 6, 1883.

I HAVE the honour to inclose the statistics, compiled by a local newspaper, from the official Returns of deaths from cholera up to the morning of the 31st ultimo.

The mortality in Damietta, Mansourah, and Shibin-el-Kom has been considerable; the last-named place, which has only 16,000 inhabitants, is put at 1,000 deaths, and still continues to contribute several each day to swell the total.

Some of the large towns, such as Damanhour, Tantah, Zagazig, and Rosetta, have only recently been attacked, and will, I fear, suffer heavily before any diminution can be expected. The epidemic has also lately taken hold of several places in Upper Egypt, but the Fayoum has hitherto escaped.

With regard to the statements in the newspapers as to the unreliable nature of the Returns, it is hardly to be supposed that they are very correct, and for various reasons, especially in the smaller villages, the full totals have, in all probability, not been officially recorded; but, on the other hand, there is no reason to believe that there has been any attempt on the part of the authorities to suppress the truth in this respect.

The epidemic appears to have followed the eastern branch of the Nile from Damietta, and it is only quite lately that the western, or Rosetta branch, has been affected. During the last few days, however, the town of Rosetta has begun to yield its victims, and even the places to the west of it, such as Damanhour and Kafr-Dowar, now regularly contribute to the bulletin. Up till now Alexandria has escaped with a few isolated cases, but a great danger exists in the fact that the villages on the Mahmoudieh Canal, by which the town is supplied with water, have recently had cases of cholera.

I have also the honour to forward to your Lordship a Table of the deaths in the several quarters of Cairo from the first outbreak up to this morning. Your Lordship will observe that Boulak and Old Cairo, which are on the Nile, have been much more seriously stricken than the rest of the capital; the village of Ghizeh, about 2 miles off, on the other bank of the river, has also lost upwards of 800 people, a very large mortality for so small a place. So that it may be concluded that the epidemic has come to us from the river, the inhabitants along its banks having been the principal sufferers.

It is remarkable how little the rest of Cairo has been attacked. Mr. Borg shows in his Report that, whereas the mortality in Boulak and Old Cairo, up to the 28th ultimo, was 29·86 and 24·14 per thousand, the rest of the town had lost only 8·73 per thousand; and your Lordship will see that the six quarters furthest from the river, which contain a total of 163,844 persons, within a very limited area, have none of them had more than twenty deaths on any single day since the first outbreak. The remaining districts, I am told, have suffered chiefly in the portions of them which adjoin Boulak, Old Cairo, and the banks of the river.

I have the honour to inclose a map of Cairo, on which the districts are marked, with their populations, as stated by Mr. Borg.*

I have, &c.

(Signed) EDWARD B. MALET.

* Not printed.

Inclosure 1 in No. 53.

TABLEAU Récapitulatif de la Mortalité depuis le Début de l'Épidémie jusqu'au 31 Juillet au matin.

Caire.. ..	3,985	Belkas	21
Boulacq	1,576	Ismaïlia	20
Vieux Caire	650	Belbeïs	17
Choubra	194	Kafr-el-Zayat	17
Saïda Zenab	179	Memel Rhoda	17
Khalifa	139	Alexandrie	16
Abdin	369	Tourah	16
Ezbékiah	227	Kafr Cheïkh	15
Bab-el-Charieh	196	Port-Saïd	12
Hôpital	205	Boher	12
Musky	58	Magaga	10
Darb-el-Ahmar	62	Beni-Souef	7
Camalieh	36	Touck	6
Abassieh	74	Kabaïat	6
Armée d'Occupation	20	Mostar	6
Armée d'Occupation (Intérieur)	29	Mehallet Hussein	5
Damiette	1,898	Santah	5
Mansourah	1,071	Kafr Soliman	5
Chibin-el-Com.. ..	1,015	Mit Birra	5
Ghizeh	687	Guetz	5
Mahalleh el-Kébir	484	Kafr-Dawar	5
Samanoud	347	Choune	4
Gallioubieh (Province de)	280	Chirbine-el-Kanater	4
Tantah	263	Kafr Hegare	4
Menzaleh	248	Echoune	3
Zifta	141	Suez	3
Mit-el-Gamar	124	Nefiche	3
Chirbin	120	Hélouan	3
Chobar	100	Dinjouali	3
Zagazig	62	Bendarieh	3
Talka	60	Habate	3
Benha	60	El-Ayat	2
Simbelhawin	58	Assiout	2
Menoufieh (Province de)	55	Berket-el-Sab	1
Barrage	50	Abou Kébir	1
Tela	41	Manfouma-el-Chibin	1
Minieh	31	Chine	1
Bemba	29	Kafr Sadat	1
Rosette	28	Ziriba	1
Charkieh (Province de)	29	Neguile	1
Sofia	27	Atfé-el-Mahmoudieh	1
Embabeh	26		
Dagadoure	24	Total	11,645

Inclosure 2 in No. 53.
DEATHS from Cholera in Cairo (July 14, 8 A.M., to August 6, 8 A.M.).

	July 14.	July 15.	July 16.	July 17.	July 18.	July 19.	July 20.	July 21.	July 22.	July 23.	July 24.	July 25.	July 26.	July 27.	July 28.	July 29.	July 30.	July 31.	Aug. 1.	Aug. 2.	Aug. 3.	Aug. 4.	Aug. 5.	Totals.	Population.
Ghizeh	5	..	2	4	30	28	15	33	68	95	55	56	81	24	51	46	45	38	28	23	6	14	..	..	..
Hospital
Boulak
Old Cairo
Esbekieh
Shubra
Abdin
Saïda Zenab
Halifa*
Derb-el-Ahmar*
Mousky*
Bab-es-Sharieh*
Gamaliel*
Abbassieh*
Totals (without Ghizeh)	3	12	61	68	146	242	381	426	463	377	362	311	299	319	330	274	271	270	194	170	160	111	5,249	368,108

* These quarters are farthest from the Nile.

† The totals for July 15, 16, and 17 are not classified, and are reckoned in the total of Boulak.

Sir E. Malet to Earl Granville.—(Received August 14.)

My Lord,

Cairo, August 6, 1883.

WHEN reports arrived from Mansourah that there was distress and danger of famine there owing to administrative mismanagement, a meeting was called together at Alexandria by the leading European residents, and a Committee was formed to devise measures of relief.

I have the honour to inclose herewith copy of a Report issued by this Committee with regard to Mansourah, and of an article from the "Egyptian Gazette" based upon it.

Your Lordship will perceive that the Committee lay great blame on M. Timmerman, as Administrator of the Railway, and on General Baker and the Egyptian constabulary. The charges formulated have found their echo in the English press, and constitute one of the principal grounds for impugning the entire Egyptian Administration with the exception of the Khedive, as is the case in the telegrams from the "Times" correspondent at Alexandria, published on successive days, and especially in the edition of the 25th ultimo, in which the correspondent calls upon me to correct a statement which he alleges to have been made in the House of Commons on my authority, that there was a sufficiency of food at Mansourah, and that when passenger traffic was interrupted a special service was organized by the Railway Administration.

He proceeds to say that ample evidence has since been laid before me that no train arrived at Mansourah until the 14th, that the cordon officer, without whose permission goods could not be delivered, did not arrive until the 15th, and that prior to that date a famine existed in the town.

The best source of information open to me was the reports of Mr. Murdoch, Acting British Consular Agent at Mansourah, which I have had the honour to transmit to your Lordship. I also communicated each one, as soon as I received it, to the Minister of the Interior. On the 4th July Mr. Murdoch wrote :* "There is, however, a danger of running short of provisions, caused by the refusal of the Railway Administration to receive goods at Alexandria for Mansourah." On the 6th he says :† "No provisions have yet arrived from Alexandria, and every one complains of the want of food." On the 10th he writes :‡ "The shops in the town are almost out of provisions, and as the Railway Administration still refuse to receive goods at Alexandria for Mansourah, we have the prospect of running short of provisions."

In his Report of the following day, the 11th, appears the following passage :§ "Regarding food, I beg to inform you that a supply of mutton has been pretty well maintained, but poultry has been very scarce and dear, and, on account of the closing of the railway, no supply of provisions has reached the town for the last twelve days; consequently, the present stock has risen greatly in price, and to many poor Europeans, who are at present out of work, the prices have been prohibitory, and that is the principal reason there has been so much said about the want of food." At the close of the Report he states that the difficulty of the closing of the railway had been remedied. On the 12th he writes :|| "Now that the railway is open our principal wants will be supplied in a day or two; and, in fact, it is the closing of the railway which has caused all this talk about shortness of provisions; . . . the price of mutton is now at its normal rate, and fowls and pigeons are also reduced in price." Finally, on the 14th, he reports :¶ "Regarding the food supply, we have just received a consignment of provisions at 6 P.M. this evening, having been at Talka over thirty hours. This arrival relieves our present wants, and if communication with Alexandria is kept up, we are not likely to run short again."

My impression on the whole is, that there was danger of a famine, but that arrangements were made in time, and that no famine ever, in fact, existed.

With regard to no train reaching Mansourah till the 14th, Mr. Murdoch reported on the 10th, as will be seen above, that the difficulty of the closing of the railway had been remedied.

The statement that the cordon officer, without whose permission goods could not be delivered, did not arrive till the 15th ultimo, is, I think, founded on a misconception. An officer had always been stationed at the point to which the trains run, but when the cordon became infected an outer cordon, at a greater distance from Mansourah, was established, and it was to the new point on the railway in this cordon that the officer in question came on the 15th ultimo.

* See Inclosure 1 in No. 20.

§ See Inclosure 2 in No. 58.

† See Inclosure 3 in No. 20.

|| See Inclosure 6 in No. 20.

‡ See Inclosure 1 in No. 52.

¶ See Inclosure 7 in No. 20.

It is also proper that I should point out that the statement to which the correspondent alludes, as being made on my authority, was merely a telegram repeating the substance of a communication made to me by the President of the Board of Health, of which I have the honour to inclose a copy herewith. I am merely responsible for its transmission.

The Mansourah Relief Committee telegraphed to me with regard to the refusal of the Railway Administration to give bills of lading for goods addressed to Mansourah, and I immediately requested M. Timmerman to endeavour to make some arrangement by which the difficulty thus created could be obviated. Because, however, I suggested to the Committee two ways in which the difficulty might be overcome, the Report says: "Sir Edward Malet seems to consider that the position taken up by M. Timmerman (the Administrator of the railway) is justified;" and further on it says: "We find that shippers of goods first had their goods sent to the interior and returned unopened; second, that their goods were refused at the railway stations; and, third, that they would only be taken without the giving of any acknowledgment; and we find that both M. Timmerman and Sir Edward Malet approved of this last course." It appears by a previous paragraph that the Committee had anticipated the suggestion I had ventured to make, and had sent goods on obtaining receipts marked "sans responsabilité." I do not understand, therefore, why my making the suggestion should indicate that I, any more than the Committee itself, approved of the regulations, the inconveniences of which I thought it might obviate.

The article from the "Egyptian Gazette" states that very grave charges against all authorities concerned are openly and publicly made, and I therefore inclose an article from the "Phare d'Alexandrie" denying that this is the case, and commenting on the allegations of the "Gazette" and the Report of the Commission.

I have, &c.

(Signed) EDWARD B. MALET.

Inclosure 1 in No. 54.

Dr. Salem to Sir E. Malet.

M. le Ministre,

Le Caire, le 11 Juillet, 1883.

M. LE DR. GRANT BEY m'a communiqué votre lettre en date du 10 courant ainsi qu'une dépêche qui vous a été adressée de Mansourah.

Je m'empresse de porter à votre connaissance ce qui suit: le Moudir n'est pas démissionnaire; quant à l'approvisionnement de la ville, le Moudir, interpellé par son Excellence le Ministre de l'Intérieur, répondit qu'il était suffisant et qu'il avait même fait punir des marchands qui, profitant des circonstances actuelles, vendaient leurs produits à des prix plus élevés que d'usage.

Les ordres ont été donnés par son Excellence Baker Pacha, au commandant des cordons, et par le Ministère de l'Intérieur aux autorités locales, non seulement de ne pas s'opposer à l'introduction dans les villes atteintes par le choléra, de vivres, médecins, et médicaments, mais aussi d'en favoriser l'accès.

Je crois devoir ajouter, que dès l'interruption des communications par chemins de fer pour le public avec les villes atteintes, un service spéciale a été organisée par l'Administration des Chemins pour les besoins du Gouvernement et le transport des médecins, médicaments, et vivres.

Veuillez, &c.

(Signé) DR. SALEM.

(Translation.)

Sir,

Cairo, July 11, 1883.

DR. GRANT BEY has communicated to me your letter of the 10th instant, as well as a telegram which you addressed to him from Mansourah.

I hasten to bring the following to your knowledge: the Mudir had not been dismissed; as to supplying the town with provisions, the Mudir, when questioned by his Excellency the Minister of the Interior, answered that there was sufficient, and that he had even punished vendors who, profiting by the present state of things, were selling their goods above the usual price.

Orders have been given by his Excellency Baker Pasha to the Commander of the cordons, and by the Ministry of the Interior to the local authorities, not only not to put any obstacle in the way of food, doctors, and medicines entering the towns attacked by the cholera, but, on the contrary, to promote it.

I think I should add that since the railways to the towns attacked have been closed, both public and special service has been organized by the Railway Administration to meet the wants of the Government and for the carriage of doctors, medicines, and food.

I am, &c.
(Signed) DR. SALEM.

Inclosure 2 in No. 54.

Report of the Mansourah Committee of European Residents.

WE, the Undersigned, having been named as a Committee to undertake the work of bringing relief to the town of Mansourah, desire to make the following report of the state of things that we have encountered:—

The first calls from Mansourah for relief came from Mr. Alfred Dale and from Messrs. Allich, Joubert, Dimier, and Fabbri. These gentlemen averred the critical condition of the town owing to imminent starvation added to disease. The statements of these gentlemen were afterwards confirmed by the following declarations made by the chief European inhabitants of Mansourah.

1. A declaration signed by twenty-six European gentlemen, including M. de Binckhorst, Judge of the Tribunal of First Instance, showed the following state of things:

That three or four days after the appearance of cholera a cordon was placed round the town of Mansourah, and the railway communications were stopped on both the Talka and Zagazig lines. Not only was the ingress and egress of people disallowed, but also the ingress of provisions and medicine of all sorts which had been dispatched to Mansourah, even before as well as after the institution of the cordon was prohibited. Chemists who sought to bring medicines necessary for the occasion found difficulties, first, from the Railway Administration, who refused to accept goods for Talka without special authority, and again from the cordon authorities, who refused to allow things to pass in spite of the urgent entreaties of the Moudir of Dakalieh. During the first days of the epidemic the town was in need of medical aid, and Mohammed Effendi Fahri was the only Government doctor sent to afford help. In consequence of the stoppage in supplies the town suffered and was suffering up to the 11th July, the date of the declaration, from actual scarcity of food, and from want of medicines, and especially of disinfectants. The scarcity of food is proved by the following Table, showing the rise in prices:—

							Per oke.	
							P. c.	P. c.
Bread ..	..	..	..	..	..	From	6 00	to 9 00
Mutton ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	13 16	20 24
Fowls ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	10 00	25 00
Potatoes .	..	..	..	..	..	..	3½	8 00
Maccaroni	..	..	..	..	..	..	9½	12 00
Butter ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	9½	None.

A proof of the scarcity of flour is that the chief European bakery, containing four ovens, had been obliged to close three ovens and stop the supplying of bread at the houses, being unable to supply his clients in consequence of the small stock of flour he had and of his inability to import further. The signatories testify to the zeal and activity of his Excellency the Moudir, and of Dr. Sierky Bey, but these functionaries are confronted by the apathy of the administrative personnel, and by the stubborn opposition of the Cadi and native Notables against the principal hygienic measures.

The over-full cemeteries exhaling pestilent smells are spoken of as a constant source of danger. Corpses were being carried through the town without being in any way disinfected, and built tombs are opened again and again until filled with corpses, and this without disinfecting precautions. Mussulman funerals were being accompanied by crowds of persons in the usual fashion, all carrying more or less infection, gathered either in the houses of the dead or in the mosques where the corpses are placed, or at the tombs.

The declaration finishes with a protest against this state of things.

2. Another declaration signed by two chemists of the town testifying to their urgent need of suitable medicines and the difficulties they had in obtaining these owing to the interruption on the railway and to the refusal of the Government authorities to allow things to pass into the town.

3. Another declaration from two provision merchants of the town testifying that their shops were emptied of necessary provisions, and that they were unable to replenish their

stores owing to the interruption on the railway and to the refusal of the Government cordon authorities to allow things to pass into the town.

4. Another declaration from the Director of the chief bakery testifying that he was obliged to close his ovens owing to his inability to procure flour. To his many demands the only reply he obtained was: "The railway will not accept flour for Mansourah." He says: "From the outbreak of the epidemic I have not been able to obtain one bag of flour from Cairo for the above reason."

All these declarations are dated the 11th July, and in no two declarations are signatures repeated. To these may be added another declaration signed by three gentlemen in Mehalla-el-Kebeer in date the 13th July, that, on the 9th July, they sought to send a live sheep to Mr. Dale at Mansourah, but the railway official refused to receive the same, stating that his orders were that nothing could be sent by rail to Talka. On this occasion, by the kind offices of Mr. Gibson, Chief of the Cadastre, who arrived in Mehalla on the 11th July, permission was obtained to forward the said sheep to Talka, and it was so forwarded on that day, but on the 12th July orders were again received by the Mehalla Station-master that nothing whatever could be sent by rail to Talka.

Also, Mr. Thomas Knowles, of Mehalla, under date of the 14th July, gives this further statement of Mr. Othon Papathymios, that on the 11th July Ahmed Bey Hamdi, Aide-de-camp of His Highness the Khedive, said, in the presence of many gentlemen at the Mehalla Railway Station, that he had telegraphed to every station in the name of His Highness ordering them to receive provisions and medicines for the afflicted villages that had railway communication. On the 12th, the day after this, the Mehalla Station-master received orders that he was to send nothing by rail to Talka.

Again, the Committee have received the further evidence of persons in Alexandria, which supports the truth of these declarations. M. Galetti, chemist, Alexandria, says that on the 29th June the railway refused to accept goods which he wished to send Mr. Marco Tilche, chemist at Mansourah. It was only by the continued efforts of Dr. De Castro towards the Governor of Alexandria that the goods were at last sent, and M. Galetti knows that they were afterwards left lying several days on the Talka Station before the consignee could obtain delivery. M. Galetti encountered the same difficulties when wishing to send cases of medicines for Dr. Haddad on the 14th July, who was sent to Mansourah by the Alexandria Committee, and goods which he had sent to Shibin-el-Kom were returned from that place; and it was only after several days that he was able to again send them when the inhabitants had already suffered severely from the want of them. Again on the 20th July, on the appearance of cholera at Ismaïlia, M. Galetti was requested to send medicines to that town, but it was only on the 23rd July that he obtained permission to send them to Nefiche.

It was on the first calls of Mr. Dale and the other gentlemen above mentioned that we at once turned our attention to pressing on the Government authorities the necessity of allowing supplies to enter Mansourah, and we tender the following Report on the response we obtained from these officials. Our first and immediate step on our election on the 10th July was to wait upon His Highness the Khedive, and we take this opportunity of at once recording the prompt and active support we received from His Highness.

His Highness immediately confirmed orders to the railway, the sanitary, and the cordon authorities that arrangements should be made for allowing the necessary supplies to enter Mansourah, and it was through this active behaviour on his part that relief was at last brought into Mansourah. With regard to the behaviour of the various officials, we make the following Report from the correspondence we have had the honour to hold with them, and, against the various statements we have received from them, we must compare the actual experiences of the people in Mansourah as put forth in their declarations. Immediately after our interview with His Highness we communicated to Sir Edward Malet, Her Britannic Majesty's Diplomatic Agent, and to M. Timmerman, Administrator of the railway, the information received from His Highness, that he had ordered arrangements to be made for the entry of supplies into Mansourah, and we requested their influence in the matter. Sir Edward Malet replied on the 11th July, that Salem Pasha assured him that the Moudir of Dakalieh had telegraphed that there was no deficiency of food, and that General Baker assured him "that the arrangements for the passage of supplies sent work perfectly."

M. Timmerman replied on the same date: "Provisions et médicaments sont reçus depuis cinq jours par Talka."

Against this statement of Salem Pasha we have the information from Mansourah that the Moudir telegraphed on 9th July an urgent appeal for assistance, and that he disclaimed all responsibilities if help was not given.

On the 12th July goods were sent from Alexandria Station by provision dealers and chemists for destination of Mansourah. But on the 13th further goods sent to the Alexandria Station had to be taken back again, because the railway officials had received orders to give no bill of lading or receipt of any kind for goods to infected destinations, and to accept no responsibility in the same. Owners of goods naturally refused to hand over their property to the risks of such an irregularity.

Advice of this interruption was at once, on the 13th July, telegraphed to Sir Edward Malet and M. Timmerman.

M. Timmerman and Sir Edward Malet both replied, and we think it necessary to give their replies *in extenso*.

M. Timmerman telegraphed on the 13th July: "Il doit y avoir erreur par suite de cordon. Marchandises ne peuvent pas être livrées dans la forme ordinaire; elles seront déchargées sur territoire neutre, où les destinataires viendront les chercher sans contrôle. Ceci ne dépend pas de moi mais de la situation."

Sir Edward Malet telegraphed on the 14th July: "Your telegram of yesterday evening. The ordinary railway traffic to infected places is closed, but a special service has been organized. Neither goods nor passengers are transported as usual. The letter of Colonel Sartorius in yesterday's 'Egyptian Gazette' explains the course to be taken. I can understand no merchant who individually is engaged in a business transaction will forward his goods without the usual guarantee of responsibility on the part of the Railway Administration. But there are two ways of obviating this difficulty: the Committee can either buy goods and forward them itself, or they can be responsible to the sender. M. Timmerman assures me that goods for Mansourah and other infected places forwarded under the regulations laid down by the Railway Administration will and do reach their destination.

"MALET."

M. Timmerman's reply shows an indifference to the state of the inhabitants of Mansourah so long as his railway is free of responsibility.

Sir Edward Malet seems to consider that the position taken up by M. Timmerman is justifiable. He acknowledges the impossibility of any individual merchant sending his supplies under such conditions, but he is prepared to approve that the Committee shall accept responsibility to any extent on a simple verbal statement that goods shall reach safely, rather than that the railway shall accept responsibility, although M. Timmerman has such confidence in the safe delivery of everything.

We anticipated the suggestion of Sir Edward Malet by accepting a responsibility, and on the 14th July obtained railway receipts endorsed "Sans responsabilité," and gave our guarantee to the consignor. At the same time, we informed His Highness the Khedive of that which we were doing. Referring again to Sir Edward Malet's telegram above quoted, we read the long letter of instructions published by Colonel Sartorius in the "Egyptian Gazette" of the 13th July as to the course to be taken for the passage of goods through the cordon. We also read in a telegram sent by the "Times" correspondent in date of the 13th July the following: "Colonel Sartorius, who has just returned from inspecting the cordons, writes me thus—'Baker Pasha has been trying since last Saturday week to induce the Government to send large supplies of provisions into Mansourah, but they will not.'"

On the 17th July Colonel Sartorius telegraphed his astonishment that the Committee should not follow the course pointed out in his letter. We can best reply by referring to his above-mentioned private letter and to the obstacles found at the railway.

On the 14th July Major Halroyd arrived at Talka to superintend the passage of goods through the cordons, and he was able on that evening at 7 o'clock to obtain the delivery of the goods sent from Alexandria on the 12th July as above-mentioned.

These goods seem to have been referred to in a note of M. Timmerman's, dated 14th July. He speaks of various packages of medicines and provisions, and a sheep being on the neutral island unclaimed, while Mr. Dale advises that the railway tickets for these goods were received on the 12th, but through delay on the part of the sanitary clerk the goods could not be obtained until the evening of the 14th, which seems to have been the time of the arrival of Major Halroyd.

This then is the position as regards the provisioning of Mansourah. On the one hand, we find M. Timmerman stating on the 11th July that goods were being taken by railway to Talka for the last five days. We find General Baker assuring Sir Edward Malet that the passage through the cordon was working perfectly, and we find Salem Pasha informing Sir Edward Malet that the Moudir had telegraphed that there was no deficiency of food.

On the other hand, we find that the shippers of goods (1) had their goods sent to the interior and returned unopened; (2) that acceptance of their goods was refused at the railway stations; and (3) that they would only be taken without the giving of any acknowledgment, and we find that both M. Timmerman and Sir Edward Malet approved of this last course.

We find that the inhabitants of Mansourah, in spite of General Baker's assurance, could not receive goods until the evening of the 14th July, on the arrival of Major Halroyd, and that General Baker's Secretary, Colonel Sartorius, acknowledged the inability of General Baker himself to arrange for the free passage of supplies through the cordon.

We find that, in contradiction to Salem Pasha's assurance, the inhabitants of Mansourah have made declarations testifying to the want of food in the town, and we find that the Moudir did actually make many appeals to Cairo for help, which help he could not obtain.

Finally, we desire to make a statement on the burial regulations. We learn on the 13th instant that, by the exertions of the Moudir, a piece of ground had been selected outside the town of Mansourah to be used as a cemetery. This cemetery was brought into use on the 16th July. On the 19th July the Minister of the Interior revoked the order for the burial of Mussulmans in this new cemetery, and allowed a continuation of the old cemetery situated in the town, and which is described as giving out smells which spread over the town.

(Signed) GEO. GOUSSIO.
S. H. CARVER.
W. J. WILSON.
J. CUZZER.
A. REMANDA.
J. HEWAT.

Alexandria, August 2, 1883.

Inclosure 3 in No. 54.

Extract from the "Egyptian Gazette" of August 3, 1883.

A VERY serious charge has been brought against the Egyptian Government. It has not yet been legally proved, but it has been supported by evidence so overwhelming that, until at least some attempt is made to rebut it, the accused must incur the full odium of moral guilt.

The charge made is one which, if proved, would possibly amount to manslaughter.

Manslaughter has been defined to be the "unlawful killing of another without malice express or implied." It is of two kinds, voluntary and involuntary, and, among the latter, is classed "the neglect of a personal duty when death ensues as the consequence of such neglect."

Now, in quoting these definitions, we by no means infer either that this amount of guilt has been incurred, or that the rules of English law are applicable in such a case; we only wish to show the gravity of the charge which is alleged, and we have to ask those interested whether they will choose to answer it by silence, by bare negation of facts, which negation no one believes, or by courting open inquiry.

If the Egyptian Government were alone concerned, it might not perhaps be worth while to ask the question. The same absolute indifference which they have shown to cattle plague, to cholera, to threatening Niles, and to cotton worm they may be expected to show to any charge, however serious.

When a Government gets to the point of publishing the protest of the native doctor against assistance being sent to the infected districts, we can only apply to them the doggerel epitaph of Prince Frederic:—

He lived and was dead,
There's no more to be said.

But it is not alone the Government which is concerned. In moments when men are suffering under a great wrong they do not enter into abstract reasonings as to who is responsible; they note the force they see fighting against them, and their first charge is against them. Now, in the Mansourah question the gendarmerie and the Railway Administration were the first apparent culprits; the former is under English, the latter,

for the time, under French direction, and it is against Baker Pasha and M. Timmerman that the charge in the first instance lies.

Now, in addition to absolute silence to or open challenge of the charge, there is a middle course which these gentlemen have certainly a legal right to adopt. They may say: "We are the accused, we await your formal attack in legal form;" such a course would undoubtedly place them at a great advantage, for in the present hybrid nature of law in Egypt and the utter desolation into which the victims have been thrown, the accused might feel pretty certain that they would be about as unassailable as a hedgehog by a mouse. We can hardly think, however, that English and French officials of high character will consent to shield themselves under such technicalities, and we confidently expect that they are only waiting for a cessation of the present abnormal state of things to demand the fullest inquiry.

The plain charge against them resolves itself into this: that, either by the execution of orders of exceptional brutality, or by the exceptionally brutal execution of orders, or by their failure, through incapacity, to obey orders, they prevented the supplying of Mansourah for twelve days with provisions, medicines, disinfectants, or doctors; that, in consequence of one of these causes, they contributed to the death of a certain number of inhabitants.

This is the charge, not perhaps yet legally brought to their notice, but openly and publicly made; they may possibly be in a position to disprove the whole, they may be able to disprove a part, or to throw the onus upon some other shoulders, but we cannot believe that they will do anything but challenge the fullest inquiry.

So far as the other party to the question is concerned, we must confess that the Relief Committee have acted with all the openness and candour which we should have expected from them. There is no attempt to employ legal quibbles, to conceal their hand, or to fence the matter; the proofs on which they rely are open to the world, they could hardly but be only too content if they could be disproved, for the charge is a painful one to be brought in this country by one European against another.

But, up to the present, no disproof has been offered, hardly even alleged; our readers must have read, with as much pain and regret as we felt, the letter which Colonel Sartorius thought fit to address us. We could hardly refuse to publish it, but telegraphed, as it doubtless was, in a moment of haste, we think it would be ungenerous to take advantage of it. The very natural annoyance with which he saw in print utterances which he had probably intended as private led him further than he calculated, for General Baker's Military Secretary is the last man that would say in private that his chief had been for twelve days pursuing a certain course, and then, in a public utterance, say that he had not done so.

We think the Relief Committee may wait, until the present abnormal state of things ceases, with perfect confidence that General Baker and M. Timmerman will then make every effort to clear themselves, by demanding a full inquiry from the serious charges now alleged against them.

Inclosure 4 in No. 54.

Extract from the "Phare d'Alexandrie" of August 4, 1883.

ACCUSATION D'HOMICIDE.—Dans son numéro d'hier, "l'Egyptian Gazette" publie un article long et virulent dans lequel elle cherche à faire de MM. Timmermann et Baker Pacha, les boucs émissaires qui devront supporter les terribles responsabilités des malheurs de tous en Égypte.

Passant par-dessus la tête de ces honorables fonctionnaires, notre impitoyable confrère vise haut et fort, et accuse directement le Gouvernement d'homicide, ni plus ni moins.

C'est, dit-il, le Gouvernement qui, par sa coupable indifférence, sa perpétuelle apathie a contribué fortement à laisser croître les ravages "du typhus-bovin, du choléra, des crues menaçantes du Nil, du ver du coton."

Mais le Gouvernement n'est pas le seul coupable dans cette œuvre meurtrière qu'il semble—au dire de notre confrère—s'être imposée. Il a pour complices MM. Timmermann et Baker Pacha.

"L'Egyptian Gazette" affirme que l'accusation portée contre eux peut se résumer ainsi:—

"... Soit par l'exécution d'ordres d'une brutalité exceptionnelle, ou par l'exécution exceptionnellement brutale d'ordres (!!), ou pour n'avoir pas, par suite d'incapacité obéi

à des ordres, ils ont empêché pendant douze jours l'approvisionnement de Mansourah en médicaments, provisions, désinfectants, ou docteurs ; que par suite d'une de ces causes, ils ont causé la mort d'un certain nombre d'habitants."

Et ce journal ajoute :—" C'est là l'accusation dont ils ne sont peut-être pas encore légalement avisés, mais qui est ouvertement et publiquement faite contre eux."

Nous protestons formellement contre cette dernière allégation. Nous ne connaissons pas Baker Pacha, mais en ce qui concerne M. Timmermann, nous savons très certainement que l'opinion publique ne se prononce pas contre lui, nous savons que personne ne songe à lui reprocher les maux desquels souffre le pays. M. Timmermann est, au contraire, l'un des fonctionnaires les plus sympathiques que nous connaissons, et l'un de ceux fort rares, dont on ne doit parler que pour faire des éloges.

Nous suivons depuis longtemps les travaux de son Administration, et nous avons vu là un travail constant et éclairé. Duquel des nouveaux fonctionnaires pourrait-on en dire autant ?

En ce qui concerne l'accusation en elle-même, elle tombe à plat devant le ridicule. Nous en démenons sans peine l'intention pour laquelle le journal accusateur sacrifie de gaieté de cœur son compatriote et son ami Baker Pacha ; mais à qui fera-t-on croire que la responsabilité des faits peut être imputée à des fonctionnaires dont le rôle en toute cette affaire a été essentiellement passif ? M. Timmermann, Administrateur des Chemins de Fer, n'a fait qu'exécuter les instructions reçues, avec sa compétence et sa ponctualité habituelles.

Mais a-t-il décidé que le train s'arrêterait à tel endroit plutôt qu'à tel autre, et que le service journalier serait réglé de telle ou telle façon ? Non. Eh bien, c'est avec ceux qui ont décrété ces mesures qu'il faut discuter si elles sont mauvaises ou bonnes.

Et puisque notre confrère nous permette de le lui dire, en ce qui concerne l'affaire de Mansourah on a mené grand tapage là où il y en avait à faire bien peu.

Il y a eu du désordre nous n'en disconvenons pas, mais comment prétendre l'éviter en de semblables circonstances. Pour être franc, il faut bien avouer qu'il y a seulement là une Commission qui, après s'être nommée de sa propre autorité, a tenu à se prouver à elle-même qu'elle était indispensable.

Il ne serait pas difficile d'en trouver parmi les habitants de Mansourah qui protestassent formellement contre les imputations que relève "l'*Egyptian Gazette*" contre M. Timmermann.

Mais il n'est pas besoin même de ces témoignages ; la réputation de haute compétence et d'honorabilité du sympathique Administrateur des Chemins de Fer est établie depuis trop longtemps pour qu'elle puisse souffrir d'accusations aussi peu fondées.

(Translation.)

CHARGE OF HOMICIDE.—In yesterday's number, the "*Egyptian Gazette*" publishes a long and virulent article in which it seeks to make M. Timmermann and Baker Pasha the scapegoats to be burdened with the terrible responsibility of the misfortunes of all in Egypt.

Going over the heads of those worthy officials, our pitiless contemporary aims high and low, and directly accuses the Government of homicide, neither more nor less.

The Government, so it says, by their culpable indifference and their continued apathy, has done very much towards letting the ravages of "bovine typhus, of cholera, of the dangerous rise of the Nile, and of the cotton-worm" increase as they will.

But the Government is not alone in the murderous task which it seems, according to our contemporary, that they have set themselves. Their accomplices are M. Timmermann and Baker Pasha.

The "*Egyptian Gazette*" assures us that the accusation made against them may be summed up as follows :—

" Either by the execution of orders of exceptional brutality, or by the exceptionally brutal execution of orders (! !), or by having failed through incapacity to obey orders, they prevented Mansourah being supplied with medicines, food, disinfectants, or doctors during twelve days ; that, in consequence of one of these causes, they caused the death of a certain number of inhabitants."

And the paper adds :—"Such is the charge of which they have not perhaps as yet had legal notice, but which is openly and publicly made against them."

We protest formally against this latter statement. We are not acquainted with Baker Pasha, but as regards M. Timmermann we know for certain that public opinion

is not against him; we know that no one dreams of blaming him for the ills the country suffers. On the contrary, M. Timmermann is one of the kindest officials we know, and one of the very few of whom one cannot speak but in praise.

We have long watched the work of his Administration, and we have observed continued and enlightened labour. Concerning which of the new officials could as much be said?

As for the accusation itself, it can only be laughed at. We can easily see the reason the accusing paper has for cheerfully sacrificing its compatriot and friend Baker Pasha; but who will believe that the responsibility for what has happened can be imputed to officials whose duties throughout have been essentially passive? M. Timmermann, Manager of the Railways, did but execute with his usual ability and punctuality the orders he received.

Did he settle where the trains were to stop, and how the daily service was to be conducted? No. Well, it is with those who did that we must discuss whether these measures were bad or good.

And if our contemporary will permit us to say so, with regard to Mansourah it has been a case of much ado about nothing, or very little.

There was disorganization, we do not deny it, but how could it be prevented in such circumstances? To be frank, it must be confessed that it is only there that there is a Committee which, after having created itself by its own authority, has shown itself indispensable.

It would not be difficult to find among the inhabitants of Mansourah persons who would formally protest against the imputations made against M. Timmermann by the "Egyptian Gazette."

But such testimony is not wanted; the kind Administrator of the Railways has had a reputation for great competence, and has been held in honour too long for him to suffer from such groundless charges.

No. 55.

Sir E. Malet to Earl Granville.—(Received August 14.)

My Lord,

Cairo, August 6, 1883.

I HAVE the honour to inclose copies of cholera Reports from the British Consular Agents at Zagazig and Birket-es-Sab. I communicated these Reports to the President of the Board of Health, and I have the honour to inclose a copy of a letter from his Excellency, returning them to me, and stating that their contents shall be attended to.

I have, &c.
(Signed) EDWARD B. MALET.

Inclosure 1 in No. 55.

Dr. Salem to Sir E. Malet.

M. le Ministre,

Caire, le 5 Août, 1883.

J'AI l'honneur de vous remettre ci-joint copie de trois lettres adressées par votre Agent Consulaire de Zagazig à Mr. Borg, et que celui-ci a bien voulu me communiquer.

Le Conseil de Santé a pris bonne note de leur contenu et fera son possible pour remédier aux inconvénients signalés, en ce qui lui appartient.

Veillez, &c.
(Signé) DR. SALEM.

(Translation.)

M. le Ministre,

Cairo, August 5, 1883.

I HAVE the honour to inclose herewith copy of three letters addressed by your Consular Agent at Zagazig to Mr. Borg, and which the latter has been good enough to communicate to me.

The Board of Health has taken note of their contents, and will do all that lies in its power to remedy the inconveniences indicated, as far as belongs to it.

Accept, &c.
(Signed) DR. SALEM.

Inclosure 2 in No. 55.

Mr. Felice to Vice-Consul Borg.

Dear Mr. Borg,

Zagazig, July 30, 1883.

MANY of the inhabitants of Kafr Zagazig are dying to-day without any assistance; the town is short of doctors and men. If no measures are to be taken it is quite useless for me to keep writing by every post.

The Report of the 28th, showing nine deaths at Zagazig, is quite incorrect; it is well known that more than forty died of cholera on the 28th, and yesterday eighteen.

The burying is as bad as it can be; no consideration is shown either for humanity or for sanitary requirements.

I am, &c.
(Signed) S. FELICE.

Inclosure 3 in No. 55.

Mr. Felice to Vice-Consul Borg.

Dear Mr. Borg,

Zagazig, July 30, 1883.

THE private reports which I have from town are that sixteen persons died of cholera yesterday, and some cases occurred at Minet-el-Gamb. There are many sick here, and even the rich are dying without medical or other assistance; I can obtain no information from the local authorities.

I have called the attention of the Vice-Governor to the existing state of things, and requested him privately to give orders to the native inhabitants to start fires, with the object of disinfecting the town. The verbal reply to my janissary was "Hader" as usual, but no fires have been lighted. I have started the example myself, but have found no imitators.

The burials are very badly executed; they scarcely bury 2 feet below the ground, and the consequence of such neglect will be some other epidemic in the future; the cemetery is quite close to the town.

Until the disease appeared here the natives would not believe that Egypt was visited by an epidemic; their impression was that it was an excuse on the part of the British Government to justify the withdrawal of the troops.

I am, &c.
(Signed) S. FELICE.

Inclosure 4 in No. 55.

Mr. Carr to Vice-Consul Borg.

Sir,

Birket-es-Sab, July 30, 1883.

I HAVE to inform you that during the past ten days the attacks of cholera have steadily increased in this neighbourhood, and I presume that there is at the present time no part of the country with such a relatively high rate of mortality as we have here; it is most difficult to ascertain the number of deaths, but from personal observation I should say it is at least twenty-five per day in the adjoining villages of Birket-es-Sab and Dia-el-Com, and in other villages in the neighbourhood as bad or worse. It is worthy of remark that in the official Returns, as published in the daily papers, no mention whatever is made of the villages in question. I need hardly inform you that not the slightest medical aid is in any case rendered to the poor sufferers except such as is voluntarily supplied by European residents; in fact, as you are doubtless well aware, the natives dread the sight of the Government doctors; but irrespective of the use of medicine or other remedies, there is one point which I think the Egyptian Government should endeavour to enforce in the villages, viz., the disposal of the clothes and coverings which have been worn by, or been in contact with, deceased cholera patients. This is a matter which does not in any way interfere with religious prejudice or custom, and it is a shame that the poor ignorant people should be allowed to spread the disease by wearing and using (without disinfection) the clothes of their deceased relatives.

In Tantah the greatest credit is due to the Mudir for the manner in which he has carried out the sanitary regulations, and doubtless the comparative paucity of fatal

cases in that large town is due in a great measure to the energy with which he has discharged his duties, but in the outlying villages the people are left pretty much to their own devices, and a great increase in mortality is the consequence.

Up to the present only two Europeans have died here from cholera, both of whom were Greeks.

I am, &c.
(Signed) C. SPENCER CARR.

No. 56.

Sir E. Malet to Earl Granville.—(Received August 14.)

My Lord,

Cairo, August 6, 1883.

I HAVE the honour to inclose copy of a letter from Khairy Pasha, the Minister of the Interior, forwarding to me letters of introduction for the English doctors who have been sent to towns in the provinces.

I have, &c.
(Signed) EDWARD B. MALET.

Inclosure in No. 56.

Khairy Pasha to Sir E. Malet.

M. le Ministre,

Le Caire, le 4 Août, 1883.

EN réponse à la lettre en date de ce jour que votre Excellence m'a fait l'honneur de m'adresser, je m'empresse de lui remettre sous ce pli quatre lettres en langue Arabe pour les Moudirs de Damanhour, Zagazig, Méhallet-el-Kébir, et le Gouverneur de Rosette.

Ces lettres, dont seront munis les médecins Anglais dirigés sur les villes ci-dessus, contiennent les instructions indiquées dans votre dépêche.

En outre j'invite directement ces fonctionnaires à prendre leurs dispositions pour loger convenablement ces messieurs, en leur fournissant les meubles nécessaires et de leur prêter toute l'assistance que comporte l'accomplissement de leur mission.

J'appuie principalement sur ce fait que le médecin délégué du Conseil déjà sur les lieux est soumis à la direction du porteur de la lettre de présentation.

Veillez, &c.
(Signé) KHAÏRY.

(Translation.)

Sir,

Cairo, August 4, 1883.

IN answer to the letter with which your Excellency honoured me to-day, I hasten to inclose four letters in Arabic for the Mudirs of Damanhour, Zagazig, Mehallet-el-Kebir, and for the Governor of Rosetta.

These letters, which will be carried by the English doctors sent to those towns respectively, contain the instructions requested in your despatch.

I have further instructed those officials explicitly to take measures for giving these gentlemen suitable lodging, for finding them the necessary furniture, and for giving them all the assistance the fulfilment of their mission requires.

I call special attention to the fact that the doctor already sent to a place by the Board is placed under the orders of the bearer of the letter of introduction.

I am, &c.
(Signed) KHAÏRY.

No. 57.

Sir E. Malet to Earl Granville.—(Received August 14.)

My Lord,

Cairo, August 6, 1883.

I HAVE the honour to inclose herewith a copy of instructions sent by Mr. Vice-Consul Borg to the British Consular authorities in his district as soon as it was established that cholera had broken out at Damietta.

I have, &c.
(Signed) EDWARD B. MALET.

Inclosure in No. 57.

Vice-Consul Borg to British Consular Authorities in his District.

Sir,

Cairo, June 28, 1883.

IT appears from the Summary Report made by the Medical Commission that the disease which has appeared at Damietta presents the symptoms of cholera, and offers the characteristics of an epidemic.

It is ardently to be hoped that the measures which, I am informed, have been taken, may localize the disease to that town alone, and lessen the chances of an invasion of the disease in your district, or render it as mild in type as possibly could be, but it is absolutely necessary that all causes favourable to the development or propagation of the germ should be promptly removed. I could not sufficiently dwell upon the importance of having the hygienic condition of the town very carefully and minutely looked after by the authorities, and of having any attempt to evade the sanitary regulations firmly and promptly repressed.

You will, therefore, on the receipt of this despatch, call the serious attention of the Mudir to the grave responsibility that would weigh upon him should the district be visited by the epidemic through any negligence or apathy on his part, or through the carelessness of his subordinates. You will advise him to give strict orders that streets and houses should be cleansed and disinfected, that all nuisances, such as pools of stagnant waters, carcases of dead animals, &c., should be abated, that unripe or decayed fruit or vegetables, diseased or decayed meat or fish, should be destroyed, and that prompt assistance should be rendered to the sick and indigent; and you will urge upon him to see that his orders be punctually obeyed, and that any evasion or abuse should be promptly and sternly repressed. And you will let me know in which manner the communication will be received and acted upon, and report, from time to time, whether and how these and such other prophylactic measures as might be dictated by the sanitary authorities will be carried into effect.

It being desirable, should the disease unhappily visit your district, that for a general as well as for a scientific interest I should be kept regularly informed of the progress that it might make, I inclose a form of return, and have to instruct you to supply it to me at least twice a-week.

You should reckon the daily periods from the midnight of one to the midnight of the following day, and you should be careful to make regular thermometric observations, and note in the columns of the Return whether you use a Fahrenheit, Réaumur, or centigrade thermometer. In the column for remarks you will state the quarter of the town that would seem to be more severely afflicted, and whether due to purely local causes, which class of the population would be most affected, whether any cases are followed by immediate death, what treatment or medicine may give better results, and generally any other remarks that you would consider of interest, and you will state as nearly as possible the age of the persons attacked by the disease.

I am, &c.

(Signed) RAPH. BORG.

No. 58.

Sir E. Malet to Earl Granville.—(Received August 14.)

My Lord,

Cairo, August 6, 1883.

I HAVE the honour to inclose herewith copies of Reports from Mr. Murdoch respecting the cholera epidemic at Mansourah.

I have, &c.

(Signed) EDWARD B. MALET.

Inclosure 1 in No. 58.

Mr. Murdoch to Vice-Consul Borg.

Sir,

Mansourah, July 10, 1883.

I HAVE to acknowledge receipt of a telegram from Her Majesty's Agent and Consul-General requesting me to telegraph present state of affairs.

I now beg to confirm my reply :—"108 deaths yesterday, 50 to-day. Graveyard in horrible state. Moudir resigned. Send tents."

I should have added that these fifty deaths to-day took place in ten hours, whereas the others were during twenty-four hours.

Last night I was informed that the graveyard was in a bad state, and in order to satisfy myself of the truth of the statement I made a personal examination of it to-day, and not only found that I had been correctly informed, but matters were even much worse than I expected. There were at least fifteen dead bodies waiting their turn, and being accompanied by relations, friends, &c., a great number of people had collected round the place, and a more fertile system of propagating the disease could not well be imagined. I also found that when a grave (or rather brick-built tomb) was filled up it was sealed up in the most primitive way, affording no security against the issue of bad air, effluvium, &c.

I called immediately on the Moudir, and protested most energetically against the further continuance of such an abomination, and suggested that he should immediately acquire a feddan of land some distance from the town and make a fresh grave, every day using a plentiful supply of quicklime, &c.

He is to select a piece of land to-morrow and take possession of it, with or without the permission of the proprietor, and he explained that he had written to the Minister of the Interior some days ago on the subject, and had not been favoured with an answer.

I would suggest that the Moudir be endowed with fuller powers, so that he can act on an emergency of this kind without consulting Cairo.

Regarding his resignation, he said that he experienced the greatest difficulty in getting his orders executed by his subordinates and the non-arrival of tents, order to distribute food to the poor, &c., that he was quite disheartened, and unless these articles and orders were sent he threatened to resign. It appears there are over 2,000 people in Mansourah now that do not belong to the town, and who are almost starving and cannot get away, and he required those tents to allow these persons to live outside the town, and feed them at the expense of Government.

The shops in town are now almost out of provisions, and as the Railway Administration still refuse to receive goods at Alexandria for Mansourah we have the prospect of running short of provisions, and this tends to increase the panic and terror now existing all through the town. Please urge upon the Administration the absolute necessity of at once allowing provisions to come from Alexandria.

I understand the arrangements with the cordon are now working satisfactorily.

From cases of cholera that have come under my notice, I find that over one-half of the deaths are of persons whose distrust or disbelief in medical aid is such that when they get ill they will on no consideration call a doctor, or even if the doctor calls they absolutely refuse to take the medicines prescribed, and Sidky Bey confirms my opinion.

Under these circumstances, I would suggest that more doctors be sent, so that they may be able to visit the houses more than they are at present able to do, and attend to any person whom they may find ill during their travels. Also, two or three female doctors to enter the harems and insist on their being properly cleansed and disinfected, because at present that part of the houses are still unexamined, except what little the doctress is able to do.

I am, &c.

(Signed) FREDERICK T. MURDOCH.

Inclosure 2 in No. 58.

Mr. Murdoch to Vice-Consul Borg.

Sir,

Mansourah, July 11, 1883.

I AM in receipt of telegram from Sir E. B. Malet, and beg to confirm my reply as follows :—

"Ask Baker Pasha extend cordon beyond Palace for tents; food exists famine prices; grandson and servant Mudir dead, will arrange take feddan land for graveyard to-morrow; ninety-three deaths, eighty-one cholera, twenty-four hours; railway open, principal wants supplied to-morrow; send order authorizing Mudir give 2,000 rations per day, urgent, many starving."

The Mudir made an arrangement with me last night that he was to go with me

to select a piece of land for a graveyard this morning, but when I called at his house I found his servant had died and his grandson was very ill, and when I called again this afternoon he informed me that his grandson was also dead, and he was so much affected that I did not press him to go and select the ground, and he promises to go with me to-morrow.

As this is now the most important defect in the sanitary arrangements here, I have told the Mudir that in the event of any opposition being offered by the proprietor of the land that may be selected, he must not hesitate but at once take possession, and the price can be arranged afterwards by arbitration or otherwise.

He suggested that he would prefer to have the requisite authority from the Minister of the Interior before doing so, but I assured him that he would incur no censure by acting promptly.

Regarding the food, I beg to inform you that a supply of mutton has been pretty well maintained, but poultry has been very scarce and dear, and on account of the closing of the railway no supply of provision has reached the town for the last twelve days; consequently the present stock has risen greatly in price, and to many poor Europeans who are at present out of work the prices have been prohibitory, and that is the principal reason there has been so much said about the want of food.

I beg to inclose a list of cases and deaths, but I find that the list of new cases is very inaccurate, as some that have come under my notice were dead before the doctors were advised, and were not entered as new attacks at all, but merely put in the list of deaths.

I find that the subordinates of the Mudir are almost completely demoralized, and with the exception of the Wakeel of the Mudirieh, and one or two clerks, they do not execute his orders as promptly as could be desired. Sakeb Bey, the Wakeel, has shown himself to be a capable and hard-working official; if his assistants were equally so matters would be much better than they are.

Mr. Dale has received several telegrams from Mr. Bell, Alexandria, informing him of the formation of a Committee there, and asking him to form another here and communicate with the Alexandria one in order to make known the wants of the Europeans and natives here. A meeting was held here to-day, and a Committee formed, a telegram being sent to Alexandria to the effect that they required two European doctors and a new graveyard, which they considered the most pressing requirement now that the difficulty of the closing of the railway has been remedied.

I am, &c.
(Signed) FREDERICK T. MURDOCH.

Inclosure 3 in No. 58.

RETURN of Cases and Deaths from Cholera in Mansourah from the 6th to the 11th July, 1883.

Date.	Temperature, Fahrenheit Thermometer.		Direction of Wind at 4 P.M.	Number of new Cases.				Number of Deaths.			
	9 A.M.	4 P.M.		Europeans.		Natives.		Europeans.		Natives.	
				Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.
July 6	82	88	W. strong breeze ..	3	..	25	24	1	..	20	22
7	83	89	„ ..	1	1	3	5	1	..	34	22
8	83	90	W. light breeze ..	..	..	5	5	..	1	16	17
9	83	91	„ ..	..	1	7	6	..	1	32	49
10	82	90	„ ..	1	2	1	2	1	2	51	51
11	83	92	„ ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..

The greater number of deaths from centre and most populous part of the town.

(Signed) FREDERICK T. MURDOCH,
Acting Consular Agent.

No. 59.

Sir E. Malet to Earl Granville.—(Received August 14.)

My Lord,

Cairo, August 6, 1883.

I OBSERVE from the Parliamentary Reports that questions were asked in the House which showed that a supposition existed that much unnecessary suffering was caused by the removal of a part of the population of Boulak shortly after the cholera had broken out there. There is, indeed, no doubt that the removal of some thousands of persons at short notice from their homes did create much suffering, but the result showed that it was a wise administrative measure, for the cholera rapidly decreased at Boulak as soon as it was carried out, and it did not appear with any severity among those who were thus removed to Toura and to the Barrage.

I have, &c.

(Signed) EDWARD B. MALET.

No. 60.

Consul Cookson to Earl Granville.—(Received August 14.)

My Lord,

Alexandria, August 6, 1883.

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith to your Lordship a despatch addressed to me by Mr. Miéville, inclosing a Memorandum on the comparative immunity from cholera hitherto enjoyed by the city of Alexandria.

I have, &c.

(Signed) CHAS. A. COOKSON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 60.

Consul Miéville to Consul Cookson.

Sir,

Alexandria, August 6, 1883.

I HAVE the honour to forward a Memorandum on the comparative immunity from cholera enjoyed up to the present by the city of Alexandria.

I have endeavoured in this form to briefly place on record certain considerations to which, when the present epidemic shall happily have terminated, and the whole history thereof come under review, I venture to think some interest may attach.

I have, &c.

(Signed) W. F. MIÉVILLE, *British Delegate.*

Inclosure 2 in No. 60.

Memorandum by Consul Miéville on the Comparative Immunity from Cholera enjoyed up to the present by Alexandria.

WHETHER the city of Alexandria will happily be spared altogether from cholera in an epidemic form we cannot presume to foretell, and even whether, should it thus declare itself, the city will escape lightly, is a question where prediction might be at fault. Yet I venture to think that, whatever happens, some interest may attach to the following reasons, which occur to me, as explaining in some degree why, since the first appearance of the cholera in Egypt, six weeks ago, Alexandria has enjoyed almost entire immunity from the disease. There can be little doubt, I take it, that this is due in the main to the following causes: a plentiful supply of good water and a sufficiency of pure air.

The water is taken from the Mahmoudieh Canal, which in turn receives its supply from the Rosetta branch of the Nile at Atfeh. On an average, 21,000 tons are daily pumped into the Alexandria pipes, and considering the population of the town does not exceed 210,000, the supply therefore is abundant. As to the quality, I have only to mention that since the month of May last a patent composition, "aluminiferic," has been continuously mixed with the water to cause a deposit of part of the earthy

matter contained therein; and this before the water has been allowed to enter the filter-bed, whence it passes through sand into the pipes. In addition, permanganate of soda has, during the last few anxious weeks, been daily used, with a view of destroying to some extent the organic matter, and the result has been capital water.

The second point, viz., a sufficiency of pure air, may be considered as affording a curious and striking instance of how unexpected good may arise out of events which appear at the time of their occurrence calamitous in the extreme. Little more than a year ago a great portion of the European quarter of Alexandria was wantonly destroyed by incendiaries, the great square and some of the principal streets being after the fire simply heaps of charred ruins. The walls, it is true, were in many cases left standing, bearing gaunt witness to the past, but these have since either fallen, or have been removed, and the total area once occupied by the buildings thus destroyed is now open space, some 115,000 square yards in extent, and serves to day as lungs to the city, whereas, had the fire not occurred, it would be covered as aforetime with unhealthy, wretchedly-drained buildings, most of them many storied, and by their great height shutting out light and air from the houses behind them.

It seems probable that the action of the fire itself must also have done vast good in purifying Alexandria, but, however this may be, the fact still remains that the burning of the European quarter gave the city new lungs, covering nearly 24 acres of ground, situated, moreover, so advantageously, that the fresh sea breezes from the north can now reach those squalid quarters where light and air are most wanted, yet hitherto have been least known.

Prominently, however, as the above points may present themselves to the mind as having contributed to the escape of the city hitherto from a heavy visitation of the scourge now passing over Egypt, it would be unjust not to mention other causes, to which undoubtedly much is due.

An organization, *ad hoc*, known as the Alexandrian Extraordinary Sanitary Commission, which owes its primary existence to the initiative of Mr. Consul Cookson, has done good work, in cleansing not the streets only, but the hovels and huts of the poorer classes, and also by inducing those in a better station of life to carry out in their own houses such ordinary sanitary precautions as are so often overlooked or neglected. The Commission has also been instrumental in causing the removal of vast accumulations of filthy refuse; has exercised supervision over the food supply of the city, and has prevented an undue agglomeration of refugees from congregating in Alexandria.

Thanks also to the exertions of Mr. Cornish, the resident engineer, and Manager of the Alexandria Water Company, the sewage of the town has, since the 9th July, been pumped out into the bay into 6 ft. 6 in. depth of water. At two points, engines and pumps, with pipes to the summit levels of some of the sewers, have been placed to pump up sea-water for flushing them, and at three other points water has been laid on from the Water Company's mains. Boilers also have been placed for melting a strong solution of sulphate of iron, which is mixed with the water at the points where it is run into the sewers, and gangs of men are employed in putting temporary dams into the sewers to divert the course of the water in different directions, the dam being suddenly drawn when the sewer becomes full, thus causing a rapid flush.

It must unfortunately be admitted that the sanitary condition of certain quarters of the town is, nevertheless, still bad enough to of itself breed pestilence; yet almost all that could have been done since the epidemic declared itself at Damietta in June last has been accomplished, and though it would be rash to predict confidently as to the future, yet we may at least reasonably hope that the scourge, should it ultimately gain some hold here, will not commit such ravages as during the visitation of 1865.

(Signed) W. F. MIÉVILLE.

Alexandria, August 4, 1883.

No. 61.

Consul Cookson to Earl Granville.—(Received August 14.)

My Lord,

Alexandria, August 6, 1883.

I HAVE the honour to forward to your Lordship herewith a despatch addressed to me by Mr. Miéville relative to the official bulletins to the progress of cholera.

I have, &c.

(Signed) CHAS. A. COOKSON.

Inclosure in No. 61.

Consul Miéville to Consul Cookson.

Sir,

Alexandria, August 6, 1883.

THE total number of deaths reported up to the 29th July inclusive was 10,237. It has now risen to 16,117, thus showing the last week's mortality throughout Egypt to have been 5,880, or an average of 840 daily.

Since the 24th July there have been daily deaths from cholera in Alexandria, and from the best statistics I can gather there appear to have been in thirteen days (24th July, 8 A.M., to the 6th August, 8 A.M.) 49 attacks and 33 deaths, while the general health of the town continues excellent.

I have, &c.

(Signed) W. F. MIÉVILLE, *British Delegate.*

No. 62.

Consul Cookson to Earl Granville.—(Received August 14.)

My Lord,

Alexandria, August 6, 1883.

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith a copy of a despatch from Mr. Miéville, inclosing printed copies of a Report by the Doctors Chaffey Bey and Ferrari, on the origin and nature of the present epidemic.

I have, &c.

(Signed) CHAS. A. COOKSON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 62.

Consul Miéville to Consul Cookson.

Sir,

Alexandria, August 6, 1883.

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith printed copies of the Report by the Doctors Chaffey Bey and Ferrari on the origin and nature of the prevalent epidemic.

To this Report, which, from my experience of these two gentlemen, I believe is entitled to be received with confidence, two other papers are added: one giving an analysis of samples of the drinking water of Damietta, and the other being a letter from the health officer at Suez as to the sanitary condition of the British steamer "Timor," from which vessel, it will be remembered, landed in June last the stoker Mahommed Khalifa, through whose agency it has been alleged the cholera was imported into Damietta.

I have, &c.

(Signed) W. F. MIÉVILLE, *British Delegate.*

Inclosure 2 in No. 62.

[The French text appears in "Commercial No. 38 (1883)," pp. 9 to 21.]

(Translation.)

"The Outbreak of Cholera at Damietta in 1883. Its Origin and Spread."

Report to the Maritime Sanitary and Quarantine Board of Egypt, by Ahmed Chaffey Bey and Salvatore Ferrari.

Damietta, July 24, 1883.

THE two Committees, of which the Undersigned were members, and which came to Damietta the 14th June, 1883, to ascertain the existence and nature of the disease which was raging in that town, having pronounced it epidemic cholera, the Maritime Sanitary and Quarantine Board instructed me at its meeting of the 27th June to go to Damietta to inquire into the origin of the cholera epidemic.

Dr. Ferrari, Director of the Health Office at Damietta, was asked to join me in fulfilling the mission confided to me by the Board.

Relying on the confidence thus placed in us, and thoroughly appreciating the importance of the matter, we made long and minute inquiries, the result of which will be found in the Report which we now have the honour to submit to the Council.

§ I.—*Topographical and Hydrographical Sketch of the Town of Damietta, from a Medical Point of View.*

The town of Damietta is on the east bank of the Nile, about 13 miles above where it runs into the Mediterranean. The soil on which the town, which is actually washed by the waters of the river, stands is Nile alluvium. The construction and lie of the town is in shape like a horse-shoe, in the curve of which the current is considerably delayed, and at the period of the low water of the Nile the sea runs back into it.

The town consists of very ancient buildings, saturated with damp, very crowded, for the most part in ruins, without any yards, and those which look as if they had yards have only a sort of narrow hall, which is both damp and dark. This is the case with the dwellings of the moderately well-to-do, while the greater number of the houses are in reality nothing more than mere underground cellars, which could well be called cesspools. Besides these there is a third kind of dwelling very common throughout the country, namely, the huts or cabins made of straw, mud, and animal excrement.

The streets are very narrow and crooked, the sun hardly ever shines into them. There is no boulevard, public place, or garden.

The surface covered by the town may be about 1 kilom. long by nearly 600 metres wide.

According to the returns of the last census the population of Damietta is 35,000.

The population is of the Egyptian race, almost unmixed; the Syrian element is represented by hardly a thousand individuals; there are but very few Europeans.

There are a few merchants and rice growers, but the principal occupations are those of the sailor and fisherman.

Mohammedanism is the dominant religion.

The whole population, including even the rich natives, feed almost exclusively on fish and rice. A large proportion of the natives prefer a kind of rotten salt fish called "fissikh" (herrings).

The only drink is water. The rich fill their cisterns with the water of the high Nile, and thus lay in a supply for seven months; but those who have no cisterns drink throughout the year water which they draw from the river, or from the haligh (canal) which runs through the eastern part of the town.

There are empty barracks, a factory in ruins, and one single hospital with one doctor and one chemist; there is no school.

There are many cemeteries; they are used for the burial of bodies brought from the whole neighbourhood; these cemeteries surround the town like a belt, and lie more especially on the north side; they are thus on the side of the prevailing wind, and some are in the very midst of the houses.

In the middle of the town there is a large depôt of the rotten fish mentioned above, besides places ("daouar") for storing raw hides for exportation, of which there is even now a certain amount. What strikes the visitor as he goes through the town is the number of ruined enclosures (kharabeh) which are found in lines in all parts of the town, and are filled with heaps of filth; there are as many as thirty-four in one single district. Besides these great deposits of filth there is to the right of the door of the Jews' "okelle" a large well full of faecal matter, which is emptied by means of an elevator like those used in the country for watering the fields (sakiah); what is taken out runs along open gutters into the large drains from the public baths, which fall into the river.

All along the streets and alleys there are little heaps of excrement, &c.

Both the Medical Committees which came to Damietta on the 24th June to investigate the existence of the disease had already noticed this unheard-of want of sanitary precaution, and it was not till after their departure that the principal streets were first swept.*

* In February last, Dr. Ferrari, Director of the Health Office at Damietta, sent the following, now translated from the Arabic, to the principal Doctor of the town:—

"Having received instructions to report to the Maritime Sanitary and Quarantine Board of Egypt on the sanitary state of the town, I have been through the streets and principal parts of the town. I have ascertained that the whole place is in a remarkably unhealthy state. All the streets are full of mud and putrifying filth, which gives out deadly smells. In many places there are regular heaps of filth and streams of tainted water, which also gives out horrible smells, which may certainly produce serious illnesses. The dead dogs are thrown into these streams, and produce abominable stench, such as may be smelled near the Catholic Church and M. Kahil's house, &c.

"I have also discovered a large well full of faecal matter, which is emptied by day with a sakiah. Throughout the town, in fact, there is a singular want of sanitary precaution; and, as summer is coming on, I should like to ask you, as a doctor, what can be the result of these emanations, and if the sanitary regulations permit the existence of such a state of things!"

Thus it will be seen that the town of Damietta is almost an island washed on the west by the Nile, on the east by the great lake of Menzaleh, on the south by the Enanieh Canal, which runs from the Nile into the lake; further, the haligh mentioned above runs right through the town.

The cultivable ground, in the midst of which Damietta stands, is laid out in rice fields covering somewhat more than 3,000 feddans.

Moreover, at a certain season every year there is a great fair which brings together more than 15,000 persons, who are crowded into the place for eight consecutive days.

We must also notice that the amount was this year greater than usual, especially at the time of the recruiting.

§ II.—*Sanitary State of the Town before the Epidemic.*

For several months the inhabitants have suffered from no epidemic disease, and it was only in the week preceding the 22nd June that we observed in the bills of mortality of the town "acute gastro-intestinal catarrhe" repeatedly entered as the cause of death.

But to make up for the freedom from human epidemics, we must observe that the fatal malady of bovine typhus has long continued in this region; and it is still more worthy of note that the disease which is now ravaging all Egypt appeared first at Damietta and Rosetta.

§ III.—*Outbreak of the Cholera Epidemic at Damietta.*

To establish the precise date of the outbreak of cholera at Damietta, we had to find out who was first attacked. Now the attention of the chief doctor at Damietta (the only one in the town) was not drawn to the presence of any grave malady until he observed from the bills of mortality that the death-rate had become unusually high; it was not until the 23rd June that he noticed this, and wrote a letter to Dr. Ferrari asking him to assist in ascertaining the facts of the case, which led him to suspect cholera, as the mortality had risen in a significant manner from the 22nd June; on the 21st it stood at one and reached fourteen on the next day.

There is no doubt that the fourteen people who died on the 22nd must have been attacked one, two, or three days before; and if their death could be traced at all to the disease which has since then raged in the country, we should have it confirmed by the fact that on the 22nd, towards evening, Dr. Ferrari visited a patient who was suffering from vomiting and a very abundant watery diarrhoea. The individual was being brought home on an ass; he died during the night.

Being thus obliged to look upon this as the first case officially established, we will add that the patient was a man of 80, called Boutros Hanna Issa, a Syrian, established here for many years, a janissary of the French Consulate, living in extreme poverty in one low damp room with his family of seven persons.

But public opinion at Damietta looks upon a man called Hassan Nour-el-Din, of whose life we subjoin a short biography, as having been first attacked by the epidemic. He was 45 or 50 years of age, an Egyptian born in Damietta, who had always lived in that town, and had left it rarely; he was a mason by trade. He had left Damietta on the morning of the 21st June to go to Mansourah; he did not feel ill before leaving, and no member of his family had noticed that he was in any way unwell; he began to feel unwell at Mansourah on the following day, that is on the 22nd, and on Saturday, the 23rd June, he took the train at Talka to go back to Damietta. All this time he was still able to walk, and had neither vomitings nor diarrhoea, but on reaching the station at Ras-el-Khalig he was overtaken by the disease, and got worse and worse till he arrived at Damietta, where they were obliged to carry him on men's shoulders from the station to his house, which he reached on the 23rd June before sunset; he succumbed about midnight, and was buried next day, Sunday, the 24th.

The opinion that this man may well have been among the first who came under the infection should not be rejected.

The date of these two deaths do not enable us to fix the interval which elapsed between these supposed first attacks and those that followed, as on the 23rd June the death-rate was already shown by the registers to be twenty-three. We must here repeat that it was only after this fresh augmentation had been noticed that the doctor of the town and Dr. Ferrari began to see the sick; they saw seven on the morning of the 23rd June; telegrams were then also sent from Damietta to Alexandria, signed by

several Consuls, and in particular by Dr. Ferrari, announcing that a disease, probably cholera, had appeared at Damietta.

The result was that two Medical Committees, the one sent by the Board of Health, and the other by the Maritime Sanitary and Quarantine Board, arrived on the spot on the 24th, and after inquiry, declared that it was epidemic cholera.

Without being too precise as to the exact date of the outbreak of this disease, we think we may take two or three days before the 22nd June as the date; that is, the 16th, 15th, and 14th of Shaban, which was the time that the people left after the eight days' fair. But bearing in mind the rapid rise in the mortality, we are inclined to believe that in any case the present disease broke out suddenly at Damietta.

It broke out in the district of Souk-el-Ribeh, one of the most unhealthy and most densely populated in the town; the disease was, to a certain extent, localized there for the first three days of its spread, and gradually crept out thence to the other parts of the town; and we would here note that up till now the malady has found but few victims among the negro servants, in some of the houses forming the long frontage west of the town facing the Nile, and inhabited by the moderately well-off.

Finally, the disease, behaving like a true epidemic, has spread itself along the Nile Valley, and is now supreme in many places in Lower Egypt.

§ IV.—*Nature and Progress of the present Epidemic.*

The cholera epidemic, which has raged at Damietta since the 22nd June, continued to increase up to the 1st July, on which day it reached its highest point. As it thus increased, the malady showed every characteristic of an epidemic, attacking all, without distinction of age, sex, or race; it has not, however, as yet, attacked any European; it sometimes kills almost instantaneously; at others, the sufferer recovers without the aid of any medical treatment, often with the least care; but very often the disease resists all remedies.

Diarrhœa is the predominating symptom with persons attacked by the cholera; vomiting is also noticed, but it is not persistent; the phenomenon of algidity is not very marked; cramps also are less often to be noticed than is usual.

But since the 1st July the disease decreased after remaining some days stationary; cases thenceforward became milder, were less sudden, and yielded oftener to treatment. But recovery then became incomplete and irregular, and we have often noticed cases which passed into the typhoid state; for some days now it has been observed that the period of recovery ends in a crisis, at which an erythmatose eruption, lasting from twenty-four to forty-eight hours, appears; when it disappears the cure is complete.

The epidemic is now rapidly diminishing; attacks are already rare in the town, but still occur in the neighbourhood.

In tracing the course pursued by the disease, it is impossible for us, and for anybody else, to know and to say in what proportion the number of attacks stands to the number of deaths per diem.

The epidemic has shown, during its course, several more or less sensible undulations of augmentation and diminution; we noticed that calm hot days increased its violence, while the mortality always fell after fresh windy weather.

With regard to the individual who died in two hours without either diarrhœa or vomiting, death took place during a convulsive fit; and the doctor states the cause to be "eclampsis."

§ V.—*Origin of the Epidemic.*

As it is now established that the disease, which arose suddenly at Damietta on or about the 22nd June, 1883, is epidemic cholera, it is of the greatest interest to try to ascertain if this cholera is the result of importation or is of local origin.

When endeavouring to go into the details which are wanted for solving this problem, we do not forget the importance of this matter in relation to many grave questions connected with the health and lives of men, and with the highest interests of their social, political, and commercial relations. We will at once state that we do not pretend to have arrived at any incontrovertible conclusion, or to have dispelled all doubt on the subject.

Indeed, we showed in chapter 3 that, notwithstanding the suddenness of the spread of the epidemic, we are inclined to the belief that this suddenness is only apparent; we also saw how difficult, nay, how impossible, it is to get at the first case of attack, and to be sure of the circumstances in which the disease was contracted;

and that because of the bad sanitary system followed here, under which the doctor in such a town as Damietta cannot become aware of the existence of an epidemic until it has already had many victims; for the same reason it is not possible to study the progress of the disease in its successive victims.

Thus we stand confronted by two hypotheses: we will merely enumerate the arguments in favour of each, endeavouring, however, to give its due weight to each argument.

(a.) Was the cholera which appeared on the 22nd June, 1883, at Damietta, imported thither from some country where it already existed in an endemic or epidemic form?

We recently watched three consecutive outbreaks of epidemic cholera at Mecca—those namely of 1878, 1881, and 1882—and showed well nigh material proof that the malady was each time imported into Hedjaz; we were therefore till now great partizans of the theory of importation, and would not have hesitated for a moment to have pronounced in favour of importation in the present case also, had the facts which we searched for most carefully, in order to arrive at this conclusion, appeared in any way reliable.

Could one rely exclusively on the Report addressed to His Highness the Khedive by his Excellency Salem Pasha in the present month, the question would be solved at once. Our ex-Professor of Pathology at the School of Medicine at Cairo, and ex-Delegate for Egypt at the International Conference of Constantinople, has already declared that the cholera was imported at Damietta, relying on the conclusions adopted by the Conference in which he took part eighteen years ago.

The conclusions adopted by the International Sanitary Conference of Constantinople are no doubt in favour of such an assertion; and, so far as we know, no new scientific fact has been discovered to modify it.

But these conclusions are already more than eighteen years old, and we are confident that in the present epidemic science will find evidence which will lead to this question being placed on a new footing. Moreover, we have a right to ask whether the conclusions of such an International Conference were really free from all political, commercial, and social considerations, and whether, as we see is the case to-day, each Delegate at the Conference was not in the habit of asking his Government for instructions on such important questions as he could not assume the responsibility of.

To speak only of our own Egyptian Delegate at the Conference, did we not see him refuse to vote with a unanimous majority on the following question proposed by the Conference?—"In case a cholera epidemic should reach Egypt by way of the Red Sea, and Europe and Turkey should escape the contagion, would it not be right to interrupt temporarily all communication between Egypt and the whole Mediterranean basin?" (adopted unanimously with the exception of Salem Bey); yet Dr. Salem Bey, now Salem Pasha, was at one with the majority as regards the contagious and transmissible nature of the malady.

But even if we grant all authority to the conclusions drawn by the Conference, it is necessary, in order that cholera should have been imported into Damietta, that it should have been brought there by sick people or by contaminated articles, having come, both of them, from India during the current year, in which country cholera prevailed hardly a month before it broke out at Damietta.

Without inquiry as to the extent to which the measures of sanitary quarantine against arrivals from Bombay, Calcutta, and Java were properly enforced in Egyptian ports, we made minute and assiduous investigations in view of coming upon the track of a traveller or of a bale of merchandize coming into Damietta, no matter by what route. We even pushed our inquiries back to many months before the outbreak of the malady. The following is all the information we could collect:—

On the 21st February, 1883, an Afghan, called Sultan Mohamed, son of Sardar, came to Damietta from Cairo and left for Jerusalem.

On the 7th March a Boukariote, named Nour, son of Mohamed, arrived at Damietta from Port Saïd by the lake route, and left for Jerusalem.

On the 24th March eight Afghans arrived from Cairo, and left for Jerusalem.

On the 29th March an Afghan, called Hadgi Amin, son of Arsselain, came from Cairo, and left for Jerusalem.

On the 24th April an Indo-Persian, called Ali, son of Hazrat-Nour, came to Damietta from Cairo, and left for Jerusalem.

On the 20th May an Afghan, called Hadgi Mohamed, son of Darouich, came to Damietta from Jaffa, in Syria, and left for Cairo.

On the 7th June a Boukariote, called Hadgi Nazir, son of Khoda-Wardi, came to Damietta from Cairo, and left for Jerusalem.

Lastly, to complete the information, we must note that on the 24th June some Boukariotes came to Damietta from Jaffa, in Syria. The six principal people among them are those whose names follow: Abdel-liabib, son of Mohamed; Chérif Abdel Nour; Chiar Mohamed, son of Abdel Moufid; Gohar, son of Soltan; Fadleldin, son of Amin; and Badaoui Wonkrin. These last two are natives of Hindustan.

The chief doctor of the town of Damietta, Ali Effendi Ghibril, assured me that these strangers were at least twenty in number with their wives and children, and that they came to Damietta on Thursday, the 21st, whilst the passport office entered them about the 21st. But in verifying the exact date of their arrival at Damietta by sea at the quarantine office it appears certain that they did indeed arrive on the 24th June, and that the number of travellers was twenty-one; but there were but six strangers among them, namely, the Boukariotes and natives of Hindustan, whose names we gave above; the rest were Jews, including the Rabbi, Achil-ben-Benjamin, and his son, and native Egyptians.

But Damietta can be approached otherwise than by sea. Merchandise and strangers can come thither by way of the lake. It is so close to Port Saïd, and its daily relations with that port are so continuous, that it would be possible for foreign merchants, or even for simple workmen of Port Saïd from among those who work on board the ships coming from India, to have entered Damietta, and to have brought the disease with them.

It has been said that during the Fair of Sheikh Abou-el-Maati, which brought some 15,000 people to Damietta, two merchants were present in the town who had just come from Bombay. This information was given to us in a note from Dr. Ardouin Bey, who in his turn had it from an English doctor, who was very respectable and worthy of belief. It is easy to understand with what zeal we sought information from the merchants, Notables of the town; the following is what the Notable Saïd-el-Lozi thinks he is able to be positive about: "During the fair no Indian merchant or tradesman appears to have been present, neither anybody selling Indian goods; certainly a stranger was seen, with a turban like a Dervish's, and tolerably well dressed, but he spoke to many people of the town, and told everybody that he had come from Cairo, where he had lived for seven years."

Lastly, Dr. Flood, doctor at the Port Saïd hospital, who, like ourselves, is a great partizan of the theory of the importation of the disease now prevailing as an epidemic at Damietta, had, as we also had, for a moment thought that he had found the key to the enigma, wrote a Report to his Excellency Salem Pasha on the 5th July, which Report has been communicated to the whole of the local press, and from which we quote the following passage:—

"On the 18th June a stoker called Mohamed Khalifa, a native of Upper Egypt, landed at Port Saïd from the English steamer 'Timor,' from Bombay for Naples and Genoa; he left immediately for Damietta. I inclose to your Excellency the answer, received this day from the Governor of Damietta, to two telegrams sent to him at my request about Mohamed Khalifa by his Excellency the Governor-General of the Canal. Although they are not sufficiently satisfactory to explain the spread of a cholera epidemic at Damietta, they are enough to warrant the fact of the importation of the malady by Mohamed Khalifa being admitted.

"Perhaps cholera-like cases had taken place on board the 'Timor' after she left Bombay, and consequently Khalifa would, on reaching Port Saïd, have been in the incubation period of the disease; is it not equally possible that this man may have been seized with choleraic diarrhoea when he got to Damietta?"

Dr. Flood's Report came to our knowledge on the 9th July in the newspapers; and admitting with its author the possibility that cases of cholera may have taken place on board the "Timor," that Khalifa may have found himself in the incubation period of the malady when he got to Port Saïd, and that it was likewise possible that he may have been seized with choleraic diarrhoea on reaching Damietta, we were about to applaud the efforts made by our colleague of Port Saïd, and cry victory with him. We therefore hastened to make searching inquiry into the facts of Mohamed Khalifa's case and into his movements, leaving to others the duty of examining the circumstances in which the "Timor's" sanitary inspection and bill of health had been managed in all the Egyptian ports which she passed between Suez and Port Saïd, as well as her treatment on reaching Naples and Genoa. (See Annex No. 1.)

With this view the following persons met at the Damietta Health and Sanitary Office on the 9th July: Dr. Ahmad Nadim Effendi, Sanitary Inspector of the town;

Aly Effendi Ghibril, chief doctor of the place; Ahmet Bey Chaffey, delegate of the Egyptian Quarantine Board; Spiridion Cossery, clerk at the Damietta Quarantine Office; and Spiridion Passiour, Notable of the town; they called Mohamed Khalifa, and he personally appeared before them and made the following declaration:—

“He is from the Mondirich of Kéné (Upper Egypt), is between 32 and 34 years of age, left his own country seven years ago; he has been long employed at Port Saïd in the service of the Canal Company as a stoker, and hired himself two months ago as a stoker on board an English ship, of which he does not know the name, and which left for Bombay. The ship stayed there three weeks, during which time Mohamed Khalifa was not aware of the existence of any disease at Bombay. The ship then left Bombay, in good sanitary condition, laden with cotton and rice; there were no passengers besides the crew, which was in good health all the time, and during the voyage of twenty-one days from Bombay to Port Saïd no one was ill. When he reached Port Saïd and his engagement was finished, he left the ship and went to his house, where he stayed four days. Then, having had a quarrel with a cavalry soldier of the Government he was arrested and put in prison for three days, at the end of which he was exiled from the town, by the order of the Governor, as a bad character, and he then left for Damietta by boat, viâ the lake, and arrived there, after a voyage of twenty hours, on the morning of Sunday, the 24th June, 1883. On reaching the town he went often to the café called ‘Salem-el-Sandoubi;’ he then got drunk and was put in prison for some hours. He remained at Damietta till the 1st July, 1883, in good health. Towards the end of the 1st July he was seized with vomiting and diarrhœa, which passed off on the following day without medicine.”

The doctors present examined Mohamed Khalifa after this declaration, and found that, although still convalescent, the state of his health was satisfactory.

As it was shown by the declaration of Mohamed Khalifa himself that the date of his departure from Port Saïd and his arrival at Damietta did not correspond with the 18th June as Dr. Flood affirms, the following telegram was dispatched the same day to Dr. Pestrini at Port Saïd:—

“Ascertain from Governor Port Saïd what day Mohamed Khalifa was exiled, and answer quickly.

(Signed)

“CHAFFEY BEY.”

And Pestrini answered by the following telegram:—

“Mohamed Khalifa was exiled from Port Saïd on Shaban 18, equals the 23rd June.

(Signed)

“PESTRINI.”

It will be seen at once that Dr. Flood mistook the 18th June for 18 Shaban. (See Annex No. 1.)

Seeing these facts, we now find it positively impossible to pronounce in favour of the importation of the cholera of this year into Damietta, and we are therefore obliged to consider the cosmic, telluric, and social conditions, ordinarily or accidentally existing, in which the cholera developed itself there as an epidemic.

(b.) Could the cholera which appeared at Damietta on the 22nd June, 1883, have developed spontaneously?

From the narrative which we have given in chapters 1 and 2 of this Report, it appears that, in addition to the lamentable permanent sanitary conditions which make Damietta the type of filthy cities, there were:—

1. The mouth of a river dried up by a prolonged drought, which laid bare its banks and a part of its bed, the mud of which had fermented under the action of a powerful sun.

2. This river carried down for more than a year (and collected them in the angle which the river forms at Damietta) thousands of carcasses of animals which stranded on its slimy banks, where they putrefied in the damp and heat.

3. The river receives at the same place the outflow of the drains, animal and vegetable detritus, and filth of every kind which the current cannot carry away, as it is stopped by the waves of the sea.

4. The miasma produced by all this putrefying matter joins the vegetable effluvium coming from the marshes, from the soil which is full of organic matter, and from the rice-fields which surround the town.

5. The water of this river was used by the greater part of the inhabitants and by more than 15,000 people from different parts of Egypt who filled the town for eight consecutive days on the occasion of the fair of Sheikh Abou-el-Maati. This water

has been analyzed by the chemical expert of the town of Alexandria. (See Annex No. 2.)

6. During these eight days that these people were crowded into the town, there were veritable orgies at which nothing was eaten but the flesh of animals which had died of typhus, and of which the hides now fill the large warehouses in the town and the neighbourhood.

7. The epidemic broke out immediately on the conclusion of the fair.

8. The 19th, 20th, and 21st days of June were marked by a sudden rise in the temperature.

9. The disease appeared principally in the most unhealthy and most populous parts of the town, which are inhabited by poor people who use only the water of the river and of the halig.

10. The disease remained localized for a long time at Damietta before it spread itself, and the spread always happened in places situated on the banks of the river, and by means of sick who had emigrated from Damietta; witness the towns of Port Saïd, Alexandria, Ismaïlia, Suez, &c.

11. The rise and fall of the epidemic here is insignificant compared with that of the epidemics of 1865 and 1866.

12. The notable diminution in the number of seizures observed after Mr. Goodall had buried nearly 1,000 carcasses and fragments of animals which choked up the river.

13. The mathematical and almost miraculous coincidence of the fall in the mortality with the arrival here of the fresh water of the rising Nile.

14. Lastly, the epidemic has now almost died out in Damietta after the execution of a part of the measures which had been ordered.

Do these facts prove the second hypothesis conclusively, in the sense that they show that the same cosmic and hydrotelluric causes which are present at the beginning of an outbreak on the delta and banks of the Ganges were this year present on the delta and banks of the Nile?

We admit that we do not possess the necessary authority to pronounce on this point, and we submit it in the shape of observations for the future judgment of science.

We must, lastly, quote here, though without drawing any practical conclusions from it, an official document relating to the subject under consideration. It is the despatch sent by his Excellency the Governor of Damietta to the Maïah on the 26th June (translated from the Arabic):—

“The investigations made as to the causes of the outbreak of the disease at Damietta have shown that it was the result of the crowding together of people at the mid-Shaban fair, who partook incontinently of water-melons, cucumber, and fisikhs; but, thank God! there is now an improvement.

§ VI.—*Measures taken with regard to the present Epidemic.*

It has been noticed in the preceding chapter that the measures taken to crush the epidemic at its first focus were in part useless. On this head it is necessary to give some explanatory details.

We readily acknowledge, and that without any intention of flattering, that the fault lay neither with the orders drawn up and given each day by the Ministry and the Sanitary Boards, nor with the requests made by the medical body here to the executive authorities.

In the same impartial spirit which has hitherto guided us, we are now about to enumerate the measures which were carried out, and those which were not, or which were executed imperfectly or after delay:—

1. We must now declare that the sanitary cordons formed round Damietta did not work satisfactorily from the time they were established to that when they were withdrawn.

2. The most important measure, which consisted in clearing the populous and low quarters which were most infected by the disease, was not carried out, in spite of the existence of everything necessary to carry it out.

3. The most rational measure, which consisted in filling up the latrines of the mosques and public baths with earth and lime, and then nailing, or even walling them up, was only begun for show, and even this show was kept for a few days only.

4. No huts or cabins were burnt, pulled down, or disinfected.

5. It would be an error to suppose that it was possible after the first to burn the goods of patients who died of cholera.

6. No house was whitewashed.

7. In view of the difficulty experienced in having the streets regularly swept and watered, it was thought well to cover the soil of the town with a thick layer of sand; this measure, which had an excellent effect, was only completed within the last few days.

8. The burial of the dead in cemeteries in the midst of the dwellings never ceased; and neither there nor elsewhere did any one venture to throw chloride of lime on the corpses.

9. As regards the cementing ordered in these circumstances in order to close up hermetically the outside of the tombs, it is credibly affirmed by officials that the persons whose duty it was to carry out this measure preferred to sell the plaster and lime. Besides, what would be the use of cementing a vault which has to be opened as many times in the day as there are deaths in a family?

10. There were only four doctors sent here, and they were scarcely able to get through the hard task that was before them, although they gave proof of devotion, zeal, ability, and courage by working day and night, and although some of them would not stop working when they fell ill. We hold it a duty to express now, in the name of the public, our sincere congratulations to Drs. Ahmed Nadim Effendi, Mohamed Amin Effendi, Kassim Mohamed Effendi, and Hassan Hassan Effendi.

We can say as much of the zeal and devotion of the only druggist who was sent here, M. Ahmed Effendi Hamdi, who was able both by night and day to meet all requirements.

11. We must also state that not only was there an insufficient supply of medicines and disinfectants sent here at first (80 kilog. of chloride of lime), but also that the second supply stayed outside the cordon three days before it could be brought into the town.

We regret to be obliged, in the name of truth and for the good of the country, to disclose facts which we should have been happy not to have had to state.

We finish our Report by a sincere wish that the near future will profit by the experience of the past, in order to avoid fresh misfortunes, and that before reforming its social and political institutions, Egypt will reform its sanitary institutions, which are the basis of all.

(Signed)

AHMET CHAFFEY BEY, *Dr.*
SALVATORE FERRARI, *Dr.*

Annex No. 1.

(Translation from the Arabic.)

To his Excellency the President of the Maritime Sanitary and Quarantine Board at Alexandria.

I have the honour to inform you that from the investigations which have been made about Mohamed Khalifa, stoker, it appears that he left Port Saïd for Bombay on the 25th April, 1883, on an English ship called the "Timor," which left Bombay for Port Saïd on the 19th day of June, 1883. The said stoker disembarked at Port Saïd and went to his house, thence he went to Damietta on the 23rd June, 1883, and has not returned.

The head stoker declares that the said Mohamed Khalifa did not go to Damietta after his last voyage.

(Signed)

THE GOVERNOR OF PORT SAÏD.

Annex No. 2.

The Undersigned, Ibrahim Moustapha, chemical expert, nominated by his Excellency Hassan Pasha Mahmoud, President of the Maritime Sanitary and Quarantine Board, to make a chemical and microscopic analysis of the water of Damietta, reports as follows:—

The water was contained in six glass bottles placed in a tin box; two of the bottles were broken, and the four others were sealed with red wax, the impression of the seal was not legible.

I opened the four bottles and found that the water was not clear, and that it turned red litmus paper blue.

I proceeded to analyze the water in the following manner:—

1. I added to some water in a test tube a few drops of azotate of silver, containing an excess of azotic acid. The water did not become turbid.

2. I added a few drops of a solution of chloride of barium to some water in a test tube. The water did not become turbid.

3. I added a few drops of acetate of lead to some water in a test tube. There was neither turbidity nor precipitate.

4. I added a little solution of nitro-prussiate of sodium to some water. There was no violet colour shown.

5. I added a few drops of solution of oxalate of ammonia to some water. No precipitate was produced.

6. I added to some water a solution of chloride of ammonium, I filtered the solution, and mixed the filtered liquid with a solution of phosphate of sodium and a little ammonia. No precipitate was formed.

7. I added some of Bohlig's liquid to some water. A slight white precipitate was formed.

8. I added to some water a little of Nessler's reagent. A slight reddish brown precipitate was formed.

9. I boiled some water in a glass flask with some drops of solution of caustic potash, and I placed near the opening of the flask a rod wetted with hydrochloric acid. There was a white cloud round the rod.

10. I boiled some water in a glass flask, and I placed near the opening of the flask a piece of paper which had been previously dipped in a solution of fuchsine treated with sulphuric acid. The paper which had been white became red.

11. I placed 100 cubic centim. of water in a porcelain capsule, and added a few drops of chloride of gold, so that the water became of a yellowish tint, and I then boiled the liquid. There was a black deposit, and the water became violet.

12. I determined the hardness of the water by the hydrotimetric method, and I found that the hydrotimetric degree of the water was 17.

13. I evaporated and dried 100 cubic centim. of water in a weighed capsule of platinum; I completed the desiccation in a Wasing drying apparatus at a temperature of 120 degrees. When I placed the capsule in the scales, the weight was found to be 0.048 grammes.

14. I calcined the evaporation residue obtained in operation 13, I allowed the capsule to cool, and then I added a solution of carbonate of ammonia. I evaporated it until completely dry, and I placed the capsule in the balance. The weight was 0.027 grammes.

15. I added, drop by drop, to 100 cubic centim. of water nearly boiling, a solution of permanganate of potassium, containing 1 gramme of the salt to the litre, so that 1 cubic centim. of the solution would represent 5 millig. of organic matter—4 c.c. 3 were needed to produce a red colour.

16. I placed on the microscope stage a drop of the turbid water deposited at the bottom of the bottles, and after having placed a covering glass over it I examined it through the microscope (magnifying it 500 diameters), and I observed: (1) fragments of vegetable matter and chlorophyl; (2) infusoriæ, principally of the order Vibrio.

Signification of the Results obtained, and Conclusion.

The result of the experiments is—

Of experiments 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6, that the water submitted to examination contains no appreciable traces of chlorides, sulphates, alkaline sulphides, or soluble salt of magnesia.

Of experiments 7, 8, and 9, that the water contains ammonia (free or in combination) in appreciable quantities.

Of experiment 10, that the ammonia is at least partly free.

Of experiment 11, that the water contains a considerable quantity of organic matter.

Of experiment 12, that the hardness of the water is normal.

Of experiment 13, that the solids contained in the water are in the proportion of 0.048 gr. to 100 cubic centim., or 0.480 gr. to the litre.

Of experiment 14, that the proportion of organic matter contained in the water is 0.021 in 100 cubic centim., and that of fixed matter 0.027 gr., which gives for a litre of water: organic matter, 0.210 gr.; fixed matter, 0.270 gr.

Of experiment 15, that the proportion of organic matter for 100 cubic centim. is

0·0215 gr., which gives for one litre 0·215 gr., a result identical with that of experiment 14.

Of experiment 16, that the water contains putrefying matter besides the infusorial vibriones, which are only observed in infusions.

In fine:

1. The proportion of mineral substances contained in the water analyzed is normal, as it is only 0·270 gr. to the litre; drinkable water may contain up to 0·500 gr. to the litre.

2. The water contains a great quantity of organic matter which is probably of animal origin, seeing that there is ammonia in the water.

3. It contains putrescent matter.

4. It contains infusoriæ, especially those of the order *Vibrio*, and fragments of vegetable substances.

From what precedes, and seeing that one of the essential conditions for water to be fit to drink is that "it should be free from organic matter capable of putrefying," I think that I may fairly conclude that the water submitted to examination is unfit for public use.

(Signed) IBRAHIM MUSTAPHA.

Alexandria, July 21, 1883.

P.S.—The microscopic examination mentioned in this Report was made in the presence of Dr. Abbate Pasha.

I. M.

Annex No. 3.

Sir,

Suez, July 17, 1883.

In reply to your letter of the 12th instant, I have the honour to communicate to you the following information:—

The English steamer "*Timor*," commanded by Mr. John Anderson, arrived at this port from Bombay on the 17th June last about 6 A.M., after a passage of seventeen days; she had a crew of thirty men and a mixed cargo; no business was transacted by the ship in this port. As soon as this steamer arrived I went on board as usual to transact the customary quarantine business; I asked the master for the bills of health which had been given him by the sanitary authorities where he had last touched, and I found the bills clean and in order, without any note. Further, I asked the master if there had been any illness or any deaths on board during the voyage, and whether he had spoken, &c., any other ship at sea. On his replying in the negative, I asked the master to bring all the officers and crew before me, and I found them all in perfect health. When these formalities had been gone through I sent the steamer to Moses' Wells for twenty-four hours of quarantine of observation, in accordance with the orders received from the Maritime Sanitary and Quarantine Board for vessels coming from Bombay.

The next morning at the same hour, when the above-mentioned time of observation had expired, the ship returned to this anchorage, and I went on board to order the ship to be disinfected; I then subjected all those on board to a strict medical examination, confronting them with the statements in the ship's papers, and, finding them all in perfect health, I admitted the above-mentioned steamer to free pratique, after repeating my questions to the master, who gave favourable answers, and signed the bill.

The same day at noon the steamer "*Timor*" entered the Canal, and it could not, therefore, have reached Port Saïd on the 18th June, as Dr. Flood states in his Report to the Public Health and Sanitary Board, of which your Excellency sent me a copy; but the "*Timor*" reached Port Saïd on the 19th June at 4·30 P.M., as shown by the note sent to me at my request by the Suez Canal Company.

Having thus shown the errors in the dates given by Dr. Flood in the information he furnished to the Board relative to the arrival of the above-mentioned steamer at Port Saïd, I take the opportunity of giving your Excellency some explanations in regard to the phrase of which Dr. Flood makes use in his Report, viz., "Perhaps there were cases of cholera on board the '*Timor*' after she left Bombay."

On this subject I hasten to inform your Excellency that when I gave pratique to the steamer already mentioned, I not only verified the number of the crew by the declaration of the master, but without trusting to that I asked, as has always been done, for all the ship's papers, amongst which I found the ship's articles, and they agreed with the declaration made.

So that Mohamed Khalifa could not have been in the period of incubation, because he had not been on board with people who had been attacked by cholera, or who had died of it. Besides, the incubation cannot last in a person who has been attacked for twenty-five days, which was about the time from the day he left Bombay to the day he reached Damietta.

I am therefore justified in concluding that it was not Mohamed Khalifa who furnished the centre of infection as stated by Dr. Flood; but it is nearly certain that, as sporadic endemic cholera already existed at Damietta, as mentioned by Dr. Flood, the endemic cholera developing on a large scale changed its nature and took the shape of epidemic cholera, probably on account of the bad sanitary condition of Damietta.

I have, &c.

(Signed) DR. FREDA, *Director.*

His Excellency Hassan Pasha Mahmoud,
President of the Maritime Sanitary and
Quarantine Board, Alexandria.

No. 63.

Earl Granville to Sir E. Malet.

Sir,

Foreign Office, August 17, 1883.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 6th instant, reporting your action with regard to the alleged want of provisions at Mansourah, and, in reply, I have to inform you that I consider the statements in your above-mentioned despatch to be satisfactory.*

I am, &c.

(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 64.

Earl Granville to Sir E. Malet.

Sir,

Foreign Office, August 17, 1883.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 6th instant, inclosing copy of Mr. Borg's instructions to the Consular Agents in his district, issued on the outbreak of the cholera at Damietta, and, in reply, I have to request you to convey to Mr. Borg my approval of his action in the matter.†

I am, &c.

(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 65.

Earl Granville to Sir E. Malet.

Sir,

Foreign Office, August 17, 1883.

I HAVE to inform you that I approve your action, as reported in your despatch of the 31st ultimo, on learning that the Egyptian Government wished that doctors and hospital assistants should be sent from India for service in Egypt during the continuance of cholera.‡

I am, &c.

(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 66.

Earl Granville to Sir E. Malet.

Sir,

Foreign Office, August 17, 1883.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your despatches to those of the 6th instant, and desire to express my thanks for the complete information which you have supplied on matters connected with the cholera epidemic in Egypt.

I am, &c.

(Signed) GRANVILLE.

* No. 54.

† No. 57.

‡ No. 35.

My Lord,

Cairo, August 7, 1883.

These gentlemen, although believing that the epidemics at Mecca in 1878, 1881, and 1882 were imported, and although they appear to consider the disease to be contagious, in both of which opinions they are at variance with English medical authorities, nevertheless declare that they cannot pronounce in favour of the theory that cholera was imported into Damietta; and they have taken some pains to show that the conditions which are known to create the same epidemic "on the banks and in the Delta of the Ganges are to be found this year on the banks and in the Delta of the Nile."

I have, &c.

(Signed) EDWARD B. MALET.

Inclosure in No. 67.

Report by Dr. Chaffey Bey and Dr. Ferrari.

[See Inclosure 2 in No. 62.]

CORRESPONDENCE respecting the Cholera Epidemic
in Egypt: 1883.

*Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Com-
mand of Her Majesty. 1883.*
